**STRIKING WATERFRONT RESIDENCE WITH UNPARALLELED VIEWS**

7723 Southdown Road  
Offered at $3,399,000

Be swept away by the luxury and comfort offered by this three story timeless waterfront beauty! The main level of this classic residence welcomes you through an open and dramatic two story foyer with grand curved staircase. To the left, a luxurious dining room offers space and style to host any number of guests. An elegant living room features Palladian windows and French doors that showcase sparkling views of the Potomac River and waterfront. A warm fireplace surrounded by mirrored shelving completes this lovely room. You will love the gracious family room, with a wet bar, billiards space and sitting area that offers spectacular water views through a large picture window. Entertain with style and ease in the gourmet kitchen and beautiful sun-filled breakfast area with sliding glass doors that open to a serene deck. The waterfront vistas from each of these rooms make this residence feel like a vacation escape.

The exterior spaces and waterfront amenities of this home are beyond compare! Enjoy a private dock with large boat ramp and lift, beautiful manicured grounds and a unique antique boathouse. Relax on multiple decks or alongside the striking pool with whimsical ceramic work. Take advantage of this excellent location, just minutes from Old Town Alexandria and a short commute to Washington, DC!

Visit [janetpricehomes.com](http://janetpricehomes.com) for interactive virtual tours of these fine homes.

---

**ALSO OFFERED**

6236 Radcliff Road  
Offered at $1,850,000  
available for rent $6,750/mo.

2108 Foresthill Road  
Offered at $1,335,000

1700 Mason Hill Drive  
Offered at $789,500

---

**Janet Caterson Price...Just plain getting it done!**

Celebrating 18 YEARS of service to my clients and my community!

703.960.5858  
jprice@mcenearney.com
At first glance, Alexandria is all about its history, and as hometown to George Washington and Civil War General Robert E. Lee, there are volumes written about the city’s celebrated past. But if you look beyond the cobblestone streets and historic townhouses, there is an edgier side of the city that attracts artisans and even inspired musician Dave Grohl of Foo Fighters fame to write “Arlandria” in homage to his hometown neighborhood.

“Alexandria is a world of its own,” said resident Maria Ciarrocchi. “On one hand it’s your quintessential small town with quirky characters and fun traditions like parades and the Town Crier. Yet at the same time it’s also extremely sophisticated with world class restaurants, excellent shopping and a destination for music and the arts.”

At 15.4 square miles and with a population of just over 147,000, Alexandria attracts more than three million visitors annually with nationally recognized events such as the Scottish Walk and Del Ray’s Art on the Avenue, founded 18 years ago by resident Pat Miller.

“Without a doubt, it’s the people that make Alexandria so special,” said Douglas Goist, who relocated to Alexandria from Brooklyn, N.Y. four years ago. “It’s nice to live in an area where people still support small business owners and where you can find one-of-a-kind shops and eateries. Getting away from that chain store mentality while still keeping a historic small-town feel is not something you get in a larger city.”

It doesn’t take long for a newcomer to realize that Alexandria is a city that loves its festivals and parades, starting with the largest George Washington birthday celebration in the country followed by the nation’s first St. Patrick’s Day Parade on the first Saturday in March and the traditional Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot.

“Old Town has all the charm that you see in European cities,” said resident Pat Miller who relocated to Alexandria from Brooklyn, N.Y. four years ago. “It’s nice to live in an area where people still support small business owners and where you can find one-of-a-kind shops and eateries. Getting away from that chain store mentality while still keeping a historic small-town feel is not something you get in a larger city.”

You really know and talk to your neighbors.”

— Del Ray resident Pat Miller

"We are a ‘front porch’ community. People really know and talk to their neighbors.”

The Torpedo Factory Art Center and the city’s waterfront are popular destinations.

Maestro Kim Allen Kluge is at the helm of Alexandria’s world-class orchestra.

Original artwork by Todd Healy celebrates the distinctive streetscapes of Old Town.

Academy Award winner Marcia Gay Harden honed her acting skills at the Littl Theatre of Alexandria.

Dave Grohl of the Foo Fighters wrote “Arlandria” to pay homage to his hometown neighborhood.
Alexandria … The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

With neighborhoods as diverse as Del Ray, Arlandria, Old Town and the West End, there's a lot of good to be said about Alexandria. But like any community, the city has its share of bad and ugly, whether it be a tangible eyesore like the dilapidated Beachcomber site along the waterfront or the intangible but ever-present pall that hangs over the city in the ongoing litigation over the Waterfront Redevelopment Plan.

Quentin Tarantino once called "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" the best directed film of all time, with arguably the perfect proportions of violence, humor and intrigue. Such as it is with Alexandria.

— Jeanne Theismann

THE GOOD — Following a two-year absence, fireworks lit up the sky at the stroke of midnight in a spectacular finale to First Night Alexandria. They will return again to ring in 2014.

THEGOOD — With almost 2,500 routes and 200 courses to choose from, Alexandria is pedestrian and bicyclist friendly, promoting both a green and healthy lifestyle.

THE BAD — The congestion caused by the traffic, trolley and tourists at the intersection of King and Union streets frustrates residents and visitors alike.

THE BAD — While growth and development can be good for a city, this playset left standing amidst the construction rubble on N. Columbus Street is a reminder of the families that are losing their homes and being displaced.

THE UGLY — Purchased in 2006 for $1.135 million, the city-owned Beachcomber Restaurant continues to be an eyesore along the Potomac River at the foot of Prince Street.

THE UGLY — The Mark Center in the city's West End is home to the Washington Headquarters Service and other Department of Defense agencies. Built amid contentious debate, acrimony still exists over its location at the intersection of Seminary Road and Beauregard Street at the I-395 Interchange.
You’re not like everyone else so why shop like everyone else?

Get savings every day at more than 70 of Fair Oaks’ 200 stores with your Fair Oaks Privilege Card
Free Privilege Card registration at The Customer Service Center in Grand Court


LORD & TAYLOR  MACY’S  JCPENNEY  SEARS

FAIR OAKS MALL

I-66 and Route 50 • 18 Miles from Washington, DC • 8,000 Free Parking Spaces
Monday - Saturday 10 am to 9:30 pm, Sunday 11 am to 6 pm
ShopFairOaksMall.com • facebook.com/fairoaksmall
Newcomers & Community Guide

Who’s in Charge: City Council

Mayor Bill Euille
703-751-7970 william.euille@alexandriava.gov
A native of Alexandria, Euille is a 1968 graduate of T.C. Williams High School. He was first elected to City Council in 1994 and elected mayor in 2003. He was reelected without opposition in 2009, and beat independent candidate Andrew Macdonald in the election of 2013. Euille has a bachelor’s degree in accounting and business management from Quinnipiac College in Hamden, Conn. From 1974 to 1984, he was an appointed member of the Alexandria School Board. In 1987, he founded William D. Euille and Associates, a construction services firm that serves the federal government. He also owns an interest in two Alexandria restaurants, the Magestic Grill and the Patrick Henry precinct.

Chapman
John
571-236-4170 johnchapman@alexandriava.gov
A native of Alexandria, Chapman was raised in public housing. After graduating from St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School in 1999, he received a bachelor’s degree in social studies education from St. Olaf College in Minnesota. He is currently an after-school specialist with Fairfax County Public Schools. From 2006 to 2007, he was president of the Alexandria Young Democrats. Chapman votes at the MacArthur Precinct.

District of Columbia
Paul Smedberg
703-625-3366 paul.smedberg@alexandriava.gov
A native of Hartford, Conn., Smedberg moved to Alexandria in 1987. He graduated from Allegheny College in Pennsylvania with a double major in economics and history. He also has a certificate of graduation from the Sorenson Institute for Political Leadership. He works as a director of government affairs for Alifymax, a biopharmaceutical company based in Palo Alto, Calif. Smedberg votes at the Lyles-Crouch precinct.

Del Pepper
703-751-0770 del.pepper@alexandriava.gov
A native of Omaha, Neb., Pepper moved to Alexandria in 1968. She has a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Grinnell College and dual graduate work at the University of Wisconsin. She served as a social worker in Cook County before moving to Alexandria and working as an aide to Mayor Chuck Reiley. Pepper votes at the Patrick Henry precinct.

Paul Smedberg
703-625-3366 paul.smedberg@alexandriava.gov
A native of Hartford, Conn., Smedberg moved to Alexandria in 1987. He graduated from Allegheny College in Pennsylvania with a double major in economics and history. He also has a certificate of graduation from the Sorenson Institute for Political Leadership. He works as a director of government affairs for Alifymax, a biopharmaceutical company based in Palo Alto, Calif. Smedberg votes at the Lyles-Crouch precinct.

Tim Lovain
703-549-1441 timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov
A native of Bradford, Pa., Lovain moved to Alexandria in 1983. He has a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Chicago, a master’s degree from Princeton, and a juris doctor degree from the University of Washington in Seattle. He works as a government relations consultant for Denby Miller Associates. Lovain votes at the Blessed Sacrament precinct.

Justin Wilson
703-338-2843 justin.wilson@alexandriava.gov
A native of Cherrelf, Md., Wilson was raised in Springfield and moved to Alexandria in 2001, though he lived in the city for two years shortly after he was born. He has a bachelor’s degree in business systems from Virginia Commonwealth University and works at Amtrak as a principal systems engineer. Wilson votes at the Mount Vernon Center Precinct.

John Long, CEO
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

Getting to Know …

John Long, CEO
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

By Jeanne Theissmann
Gazette Packet

When John Long arrived in Alexandria in March of 2012, he wasted no time in letting everyone know his goals as the new president and CEO of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce.

“I said as soon as I arrived that I want Alexandria to set the standard as one of the best chambers in the country,” said Long in a rare free moment as head of the city’s most influential business organization. “I don’t want us to be an organization that thinks outside the box. I don’t want to have a box.”

Long has been actively putting together partnerships with area organizations such as the Northern Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce, the Asian-American Chamber of Commerce, and the Mid-Atlantic Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

“We’re making moves to have representatives from these groups on our board,” said Long, who also established a partnership with the Washington Nationals Major League Baseball team. “It helps us put together an organization that looks like the community we represent.”

Long brings to Alexandria over 18 years of chamber management experience, having served as the president and CEO of the St. Petersburg, Fla., Kalamazoo, Mich. and Talbot County, Md. Chambers of Commerce. Under his tutelage, the St. Petersburg Chamber was honored as one of the Top 3 Metropolitan Chambers in North America and Long was individually honored with the Chairman’s Award by the American Chamber of Commerce Executives as the Outstanding Chamber Executive in the United States.

“Alexandria is an exciting place to be,” said Long, who serves on the boards of the Alexandria Police Foundation, the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association, the Small Business Development Council and the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership. “There is great opportunity here and I’m confident that people will see the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce as an organization to be a part of.”

Inside Senior Services of Alexandria

Senior Services of Alexandria is non-profit founded in 1968 by a group of residents committed to improving the lives of seniors in the community. In partnership with the City of Alexandria, donors, faith communities and volunteers, SSA provides programs and services for seniors including Meals on Wheels, DOT Para-transit Services, the Friendly Visitor Program, a monthly Speaker Series and the Senior Resource Center which offers information about service providers, activities and resources for seniors and their caregivers. SSA is a link between aging citizens and other community members with a mission to foster independence and self-sufficiency, enabling seniors to age with dignity.

SERVICES AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Meals on Wheels - Meals on Wheels allows seniors who are unable to leave their homes to shop or who have difficulty preparing a meal to have two healthy meals a day delivered to their homes. SSA provides meals 365 days a year in partnership with the City of Alexandria, volunteers and donors.

Volunteers are always needed especially on weekends to deliver meals. The time-commitment is about 2 hours and training is provided. For more information contact mealsonwheels@seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext. 12.

Friendly Visitor Program - SSA screens and trains volunteers who donate their time to bring companionship during weekly visits to elderly people residing in the City of Alexandria. The goal of the program is to relieve loneliness and the feeling of isolation experienced by many of the city’s seniors. To volunteer or know of a senior who could use a friendly visitor, email friendvisitor@seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext. 20.

DOT Transportation Services - For residents of Alexandria unable to use public transport, DOT Transportation provides safe and reliable curb-to-curb taxi services seven days a week in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. SSA’s reservationists schedule rides which are provided in cooperation with Diamond Transportation and White Top Cab companies and the City of Alexandria. For more information email transport@seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext 15.

Senior Services of Alexandria
700 Princess Street, Mezzanine Level Alexandria, VA 22314
703-836-4414
www.seniorservicesalex.org
executivedirector@seniorservicesalex.org
$66 million sold in 2012...
$66 million sold to date in 2013!

Call the #1 Agent in Alexandria today!
Goodhart Group 2013 Home Sales

BEVERLEY HILLS & JEFFERSON PARK
3312 Alabama Avenue*
710 Enderby Drive*
908 Enderby Drive*
800 Enderby Drive
807 Enderby Drive
718 North Overlook Drive
2506 Clay Street*
2507 Hayes Street
2811 Ridge Road Drive
3200 Old Dominion Blvd*

DEL RAY & ROSEMONT
8A Alexandria Avenue*
105 West Howell Avenue
217 East Mason Avenue
33 Mount Vernon Avenue*
11 Chapman Street**
207 North View Terrace
606 Little Street
312 Rucker Place
10 West Walnut Street
802 Russell Road
3017 King Street
704 Braxton Place
213 Tennessee Avenue
312 Mansion Drive
3019 King Street

WEST END
6488 Patuxent Vista Drive
4852 Eisenhower Avenue #233*
4004 Sharp Place**
3921 Colonial Ellis Avenue**
330 Helmuth Lane
4118 Fort Worth Place
2436 Garnett Drive
29 South Hudson Street
1704 Stonebridge Road
26 Cockrell Street
40 North Danielson Street
6112 Berlee Drive
4009 Ellicott Street
4524 LaSalle Avenue
400 Cameron Station Blvd, #228*
5263 Colonel Johnson Lane
201 East Taylor Run Parkway*
1265 Dartmouth Court

OLD TOWN
2151 Jamieson Avenue #1901/1902**
418 South Fairfax Street*
126 Queen Street
908 Queen Street
1010 Wythe Street
615 North Columbus Street
1013 Vernon Street
716 Norfolk Lane #8*
912 Bernard Street
1207 North Pitt Street #3A*
828 Slaters Lane #306*

MOUNT VERNON
1805 Paul Spring Parkway*
4203 Dandridge Terrace

FRANCONIA
5990 Founders Hill Court
5620 Glenwood Drive

*Represented Buyer
**Listed & Brought the Buyer

Contact us today to buy or sell your Alexandria home!
703.362.3221 • homes@thegoodhartgroup.com

The Goodhart Group
Sue & Allison Goodhart
Helping Clients love where they live for over 20 years.

www.thegoodhartgroup.com
www.youtube.com/user/suegoodhart

Licensed in Virginia, Maryland & Washington, DC
109 S Pitt Street • Alexandria, VA 22314 • 703.549.9292
Who’s in Charge: City School Board

The Alexandria City Public Schools educates more than 12,000 students in 19 schools with an operating budget of $215 million and a capital budget of $65 million. It has a per-pupil cost of $18,000.

District A
Chairwoman
Karen Graf
703-907-9321
karen.graf@acps.k12.va.us

A native of San Francisco, Graf has a bachelor's degree in English literature from California State University, Chico, and a master's degree in technical communications from Northeastern University. Currently a stay-at-home mother, she is a former technical writer and manager of writers and editors. She has three children in Alexandria City Public Schools.

Graf votes at the Mount Vernon precinct.

Bill Campbell
703-399-9521
bill.campbell@acps.k12.va.us

A native of Fairmont, W.V., Campbell has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from West Virginia University and a master's degree in paralegal studies from Georgetown University. He is currently a project engineer for the Department of Defense.

Campbell lives in Alexandria City Public Schools, and a daughter who graduated from T.C. Williams High School in 2010. Campbell votes at the Durant precinct.

Stephanie Kapsis
703-798-8036
stephanie.kapsis@acps.k12.va.us

A native of Washington, D.C., Kapsis was raised in McLean and has a bachelor's degree in politics from Princeton University and a master's degree in teaching from Pace University. She has been a classroom teachers and a director at Teach for America. Kapsis votes at the George Washington School precinct.

District B
Vice Chairman
Justin Keating
703-966-3193
justin.keating@acps.k12.va.us

A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Keating has a bachelor's degree in political science from SUNY College at Fredonia and a juris doctorate from George Washington University. He is currently a lawyer representing labor unions and pension funds. He has a son who attends Alexandria City Public Schools. Keating votes at the Maury precinct.

Kelly Booz
703-244-6396
kelly.booz@acps.k12.va.us

A native of Minneapolis, Booz has a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in women's studies at Carleton College in Minnesota. She also has a master's degree in social work from the University of Virginia. Booz is the director of civic education at the Center for the Constitution at James Madison's Monticello. Booz votes at the Maury precinct.

Marc Williams
703-549-3443
marc.williams@acps.k12.va.us

A native of Versailles, Ky., Williams has lived in Alexandria since 1992. He was first elected in an August 2008 special election after the resignation of former School Board Chairwoman Claire Eberwein, and was reelected in 2009. Williams received his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of the South and a juris doctorate from the University of Virginia School of Law. He is currently part of IBM's Government Programs group, where he is responsible for IBM's global intellectual property policy. His home precinct is George Mason Elementary School.

Pat Hennig
703-798-8036
pat.hennig@acps.k12.va.us

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Hennig has been a resident of the West End since 1975. She served as a member of the School Board from 1994 to 1997. She served on the School Board Special Advisory Committee and the Substance Abuse Education and Violence Prevention Advisory Committee, the Budget Advisory Committee and was a founding member of the Alexandria Police Youth Camp Foundation. She votes at the William Ramsey Center.

Chris Lewis
703-300-2370
christopher.lewis@acps.k12.va.us

A native of Alexandria, his family has lived in the city for four generations. He has a bachelor's degree from Harvard University. He is a former state director for Generation Engage and a former Senate staffer with Senator Edward Kennedy. He is currently deputy director of the Office of Legislative Affairs for the Federal Communications Commission. He votes at the Bealety Library precinct.

District C
Ronnie Campbell
703-965-3344
ronnie.campbell@acps.k12.va.us

A native of Brookfield, Mass., she has lived in Alexandria since 1985. She was first elected in 2006, and was reelected in 2009. She graduated from Tantasqua Regional High School and attended Worcester State College. A lifelong employee of the United States Postal Service, Campbell is currently a sales associate. She is a former member of the School Board's Budget Advisory Committee, the board of the Virginia state Parents’ Teacher Association and the first assistant director to the Fairfax District PTA. Her home precinct is John Adams Elementary School.
the acronym runs from ACVA to WEBA and represent citywide organizations and various business associations from the waterfront to the West End. Earlier this year, the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association held its annual “ABC’s of Doing Business in Alexandria,” a symposium that showcased the resources and support available to businesses throughout the city.

“Business people investing the time, resources and hard work it takes to succeed, and in the process, building a strong financial foundation for this city,” ACVA President and CEO Patricia Washington told attendees. “Business in Alexandria,” a symposium that showcases the resources and support available to businesses throughout the city.

“You are our vision of what makes Alexandria great,” ACVA President and CEO Patricia Washington told attendees. “Business people investing the time, resources and hard work it takes to succeed, and in the process, building a strong financial foundation for this city.”

Whether you are new to the city or a longtime resident, following is a primer that explains the ABC’s of Alexandria.

Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association - ACVA

The Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association, as the City’s tourism marketing agency, attracts visitors to the city through a comprehensive sales and marketing program contributing both to the quality of life for Alexandria residents and to the economic health of Alexandria.

ACVA’s advertising campaign last year reached 100 million households, with the website reaching 1 million visitors. The ACVA organizes promotions including the twice-yearly Alexandria Restaurant Week and the special-offers booklet Key to the City.

The ACVA Visitors Center is located at 221 King St. with administrative offices at 625 N. Washington St., Suite 400. VisitAlexandriaVA.com

Alexandria Economic Development Partnership - AEDP

Founded in 1992, the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, along with the other economic development organizations in the City, defines and markets Alexandria as a creative, diverse, knowledge-based community with a high quality of life.

AEDP’s goal is to support existing and future businesses, development and economic growth in Alexandria as to ensure that businesses are successful and that the City is competitive.

625 N. Washington St., suite 400. 703-739-3820 or www.AlexEcon.org

Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

Alexandria is home to one of the largest chambers in the Greater Washington region, with 850 professional business members and partners employing more than 49,000 people region-wide. Founded in 1906, it serves as the voice of the business community in the City of Alexandria through aggressive lobbying efforts at the local, state and federal levels. In addition, the chamber offers a variety of programs and services to assist members to promote and expand their business.

801 N. Fairfax St. #402 703-549-1000 or www.alexchamber.com

OTBPA’s most visible project is the annual Alexandria Retail Coupon Book. As an advocate for the importance of keeping Alexandria beautiful, the plaza at Commerce and King Streets, with benches and lighting and now a sculpture, came about with KSMET funding and lobbying. www.otbpa.com

Alexandria Small Business Development Center - SBDC

The Alexandria Small Business Development Center is Alexandria’s economic development program that focuses on small businesses. Small businesses comprise the largest segment of Alexandria’s economy but their potential is often hindered by lack of information or expertise. All Alexandria SBDC services are provided without cost.

The key message is that Alexandria SBDC offers individual and confidential assistance without cost to City of Alexandria businesses and Alexandria residents with businesses elsewhere.

625 N. Washington St., Suite 400. 703-778-1291 or www.alexandriasbdc.org

The Del Ray Business Association - DRBA

The Del Ray Business Association is run by volunteers who are themselves business owners. Started almost 40 years ago, DRBA now has more than 200 members.

The business association sponsors several events in the Del Ray community each year. There is a monthly luncheon featuring speakers of interest to the membership.

Members of the association are available to mentor new businesses and advocate in support of business friendly policies with Alexandria officials, the Planning Commission and City Council. www.visitdelray.com

Old Town Business and Professional Association - OTBPA

Open to all businesses of any type, OTBPA is a result of a merger of two organizations - Old Town Business (OTB) and King Street Metro Enterprise Team (KSMET).

OTBPA’s most visible project is the annual Alexandria Retail Coupon Book.

As an advocate for the importance of keeping Alexandria beautiful, the plaza at Commerce and King Streets, with benches and lighting and now a sculpture, came about with KSMET funding and lobbying. www.otbpa.com

Alexandria Small Business Development Center - SBDC

The Alexandria Small Business Development Center is Alexandria’s economic development program that focuses on small businesses. Small businesses comprise the largest segment of Alexandria’s economy but their potential is often hindered by lack of information or expertise. All Alexandria SBDC services are provided without cost.

The key message is that Alexandria SBDC offers individual and confidential assistance without cost to City of Alexandria businesses and Alexandria residents with businesses elsewhere.

625 N. Washington St., Suite 400. 703-778-1291 or www.alexandriasbdc.org

Val Hawkins, CEO, Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP)

Bill Reagan, Executive Director, Alexandria Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

Carol Supplee, Old Town Business and Professional Association (OTBPA)

Peter Baldwin, West End Business Association (WEBA)

David Chamowitz, Eisenhower Public-Private Partnership

West End Business Association - WEBA

The West End Business Association is comprised of West End Businesses and those that do business on the West End of Alexandria. WEBA provides members with networking opportunities, education and growth opportunities and representation before the City and economic development officials on matters important to the West End of Alexandria.

www.alexandriaweba.com

Eisenhower Partnership

The Eisenhower Partnership is a group of commercial and residential property owners and occupiers along the Eisenhower Avenue Valley corridor. The Eisenhower Valley is defined as the 4.5-mile east-west corridor which parallels the City’s southern border along Cameron Run. The Valley is anchored in the East by the Patent and Trademark Campus and in the West by the Victory Center development/Van Dorn Metro Station.

www.eisenhowerpartnership.org

Navigating the ABC’s of Alexandria.
**EDITORIAL**

**About the Gazette Packet**

*Newcomers and Community Guide 2013-2014*

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet’s mission is to bring the local news you need, to gather information about the best things in and near your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record milestones and events in community and people’s lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we’ve included an expanded and updated insider’s look at events and activities, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

We invite newcomers and long-time residents alike to let us know how we’re doing and let us know what is going on in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, send us an e-mail or call us, contact us on Facebook or send us a tweet. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an e-mail with feedback about our coverage.

If you wish to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries. We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo. We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees, anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

The paper you’re reading, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of 15 papers published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md.

As our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

The Connection Newspapers have won hundreds of press awards in just the past few years, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service, and awards in news, art, business, special projects, sports, entertainment, design, photography, and much more.

We have staff and contributors here at the Connection with remarkable talent and experience, far greater than one might expect. While the last few years have brought many challenges to the newspaper business everywhere, affecting us as well, we continue to publish 15 distinct papers every week that serve their communities in distinct ways.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

*Concern For Students*

To the Editor:

Another year and another disappointing set of test scores. I am amazed that the only thing the School Board and City Council are focused on with respect to the situation with Jefferson Houston is a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the law that enables the state to take over the school.

During this entire discussion I have not heard one Alexandria official voice concern for the students. Instead of concern that they are not successful in providing students the skills necessary for success in life, they are focused on their own needs (keeping control). I think they are trying to block the school takeover because they don’t want someone else to get the credit if performance improves. The fact of the matter is that we would not be in this situation if they were doing their job to educate the children of Alexandria. They have not been doing their job and we have the abysmal test scores to prove it. In my opinion, we should turn the entire school district over to the state and maybe we would see some return on our substantial investment.

*Micheline Eyraud*  
**Alexandria**

*Continuing Improvements*

To the Editor:

The headline of the Aug. 15 article, “When It Rains, It Stinks,” may grab your attention, but for many who are unaware of the current issues, it may also lead to a misunderstanding of facts about challenges associated with managing a legacy infrastructure such as the city’s Combined Sewer System, while maintaining full compliance with all regulatory and permit requirements.

Here are the facts:

❖ The Virginia Department of *Alexandria Gazette Packet*  
www.AlexandriaGazette.com  
@AlexGazette

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.  
*Published by Local Media Connection LLC*  
1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
To discuss ideas and concerns, Call: 703-778-9410  
e-mail: gazette@connectionnewspapers.com  
Steven Mauren  
Editor  
703-778-9415  
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com  
Michael Lee Pope  
Features  
703-778-9460  
mpope@connectionnewspapers.com  
@MichaelLeePope

Joanne Thomann  
703-778-9436  
jthomann@connectionnewspapers.com  
@JoThomannMd

Jon Rostman  
Sports Editor  
703-778-3015  
jrostman@connectionnewspapers.com  
@JonRostman

Louise Krafft  
Photographer  
lkrafft@connectionnewspapers.com

**ADVERTISING:**  
For advertising information  
e-mail: sales@connectionnewspapers.com  
Julie Ferrill  
Display Advertising  
703-778-9446  
jferrill@connectionnewspapers.com

Jane Hughes  
Display Advertising  
703-778-9448  
jhughes@connectionnewspapers.com

Tara Lloyd  
Display Advertising  
703-778-9447  
tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith  
Classified Advertising  
703-778-9411  
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk  
National Sales  
703-778-9444  
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

**Publisher**  
Jerry Vernon  
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
703-778-9433  
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com  
@MaryKimm

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
@MaryKimm

**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Poynter, John Feidt  
Production Manager:  
Giovanni Flores

**Editor Emeritus:**  
Mary Anne Weber

**CIRCULATION:**  
703-778-9427  
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper  
Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria. Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the distributor who will be notified to discontinue service. The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC.

**Free Digital Edition:**  
Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the distributor who will be notified to discontinue service. The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC.

**Display Advertising:**  
703-778-9446  
DisplayAdvertising@connectionnewspapers.com

**Classified Advertising:**  
703-778-9411  
ClassifiedAdvertising@connectionnewspapers.com

**Editorial:**  
Jean Card  
703-778-9427  
jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

**National Sales:**  
Jerry Vernon  
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

**Features:**  
Michael Lee Pope  
703-778-9460  
mpope@connectionnewspapers.com  
@MichaelLeePope

**Circulation Manager:**  
jrastian@connectionnewspapers.com

**Copy Editor:**  
Mary Anne Weber

**Sports Editor:**  
Jon Rostman  
703-778-3015  
jrostman@connectionnewspapers.com  
@JonRostman

**Photographer:**  
lkrafft@connectionnewspapers.com

**Publisher**  
Jerry Vernon  
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
703-778-9433  
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com  
@MaryKimm

**Editor in Chief**  
Steve Mauren  
SteveMauren@connectionnewspapers.com

**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Poynter, John Feidt  
Production Manager:  
Giovanni Flores

**Editor Emeritus:**  
Mary Anne Weber

**CIRCULATION:**  
703-778-9427  
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper  
Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria. Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the distributor by telephone at 703-937-6480 or by email at distribution@connectionnewspapers.com, and the distributor will be notified to discontinue service.

**Letters to the Editor:**

*Festival Preview*

Zohal Hamidi and Lina Amini perform an Afghan cultural dance to benefit Afghan Education for a Better Tomorrow on the Old Town waterfront Saturday, Aug. 24. The performance is a preview for the Afghan Arts and Culture Festival on Sept.1 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.
OPINION

Forgotten New Arrivals

By Harry M. Covert

While the welcome mat is always out for newcomers in Alexandria there are lots of visitors who are really returnees. Consider the pleasures of dining and shopping up and down historic King Street’s Old Town, visiting the magnificent waterfront. Then there is the comfortable and happy Del Ray. This is a neighborhood with it’s own main street which enjoys a separate but equal status. Active and proud homeowners who love the small town flavor within a big town.

Of course, Alexandria’s West End is booming too. Not all new arrivals find their return as habitable as their firsts. It’s not their fault perhaps. Thankfully there are folks who make it their business to be welcome wagons of sorts.

The pitch to many “visitors” are those returning to the community after serving jail and prison sentences. They are certainly delighted to be free from the bonds of justice but they face challenges of enormous proportions after penance.

Where to live? Where to work? How to get a job? It’s not unusual to hear such words as “they got what they deserve.” And other similar epithets that aren’t encouraging or helpful.

When the men and women, boys and girls attempt to go back home, it’s not always a wonderful experience. In fact, former friends, neighbors, employers and prospective employers look askance. A smile perhaps but not fully happy to see them. Not everybody says: “What can I do to help?”

It’s easy to poke fun at city government and political leaders. It’s always on topic to criticize everything they plan or want to accomplish.

Within the past few weeks, Alexandria’s City Hall has welcomed the work of Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR). Not really newcomers because they’ve been involved with people in all of Northern Virginia for years.

The city’s funding enabled OAR to find office space where it’s needed in a big way. One of the city’s largest religious institutions answered their call. Downtown Baptist Church on Washington Street offered facilities where ex-offenders, called clients, meet the pros of OAR. They are counseled and aided in “coming home.” It’s not always easy to find a job, but OAR has to how to do it.

Many anonymous donors find OAR’s mission vital. Local companies find ways to put the clients on their payrolls. This takes time. It’s worth the hard work though.

It’s a common comment that many former offenders find their way back to jail cells. The reasons are many but mainly no jobs, family rejections, despair, no education, homelessness and hunger.

As “come hens” or “new arrivals” find joy and comfort in the friendliness of the celebrated city there is room to welcome and help those “recovering” from “controlled environments.”

Protecting Digital Property

By Deborah G. Matthews

It is a new world out there. Looking forward, we face a digital frontier with many unknowns. You might know where your digital things are located, but could others find them without your help?

The digital frontier has changed how we access what’s ours. Digital property is often hidden from view. No longer can we simply reach out and touch things. What is digital property?

Digital property is everywhere and what it constitutes is broad – e-mail, texts, social media posts, online accounts, videos, passwords and IDs to access sites, data on shopping, financial and other sites, electronic documents, photo collections, etc. To the dismay of many, your iTunes music collection, downloaded e-books or movies are not included - you purchased only a lifetime license. The licenses typically expire when you die.

To determine how a site or online provider will treat your data in case of death or incapacity, read the Terms of Service — a costly option. What can I do to help?

Many anonymous donors find OAR’s mission vital. Local companies find ways to put the clients on their payrolls. This takes time. It’s worth the hard work though.

It’s a common comment that many former offenders find their way back to jail cells. The reasons are many but mainly no jobs, family rejections, despair, no education, homelessness and hunger.

As “come hens” or “new arrivals” find joy and comfort in the friendliness of the celebrated city there is room to welcome and help those “recovering” from “controlled environments.”

For Do-It-Yourselfers or Contractors: ABC Distributors

Serving the building/remodeling industry in Alexandria/Arlington for over 40 years. Open to the public. Competitive pricing.

HARDWARE • LUMBER • BUILDING SUPPLIES
TOOLS • PLUMBING • ELECTRICAL • PAINT
SUNDRIES & GARDEN SUPPLIES

Sat. 8 am to 1 pm and Mon./Fri. 6:30 am – 5 pm
Open Saturdays May through October

Looking for a Great Local Hardware Store?

ABC DISTRIBUTORS
2633 South Shirlington Road, Arlington
703-979-1171
See our new website at: www.abcddistributor.net

Imagine having peace of mind.


Fairfax County Health Department

Adult Day Health Care

5 locations in Fairfax County
Mon. – Fri., 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Schedule a visit today.
703-750-3316
fax: 703-510-8177
fairfaxcounty.gov/health

Call Now to Get 2 Weeks FREE!

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Looking for a Great Local Hardware Store?

ABC DISTRIBUTORS
2633 South Shirlington Road, Arlington
703-979-1171
See our new website at: www.abcddistributor.net

Imagine having peace of mind.


Fairfax County Health Department

Adult Day Health Care

5 locations in Fairfax County
Mon. – Fri., 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Schedule a visit today.
703-750-3316
fax: 703-510-8177
fairfaxcounty.gov/health

Call Now to Get 2 Weeks FREE!
The permit’s regulatory approach achieves short-term results, while ultimately ensuring long-term compliance with water quality standards. It is important to also note that since 2000, the city has been proactive in its efforts to address the combined sewer overflow (CSO) issue, requiring developers to separate wastewater from the CSO system wherever redevelopment occurs. 

The permit’s approach properly addresses the shortage of parking. By incentivizing project developers to address the combined sewer overflow issue, the permitting process is designed to encourage developers to separate wastewater from the system and reduce the potential for CSO incidents.

The city anticipates this measurable, performance-based reduction targets will be integral to future permits until the updated LTCP is fully implemented, thus guaranteeing continued improvements to the system and reduction of impacts on the receiving waters.

The permit’s approach achieves short-term results, while ultimately ensuring long-term compliance with water quality standards. It is important to also note that since 2000, the city has been proactive in its efforts to address the combined sewer overflow (CSO) issue, requiring developers to separate wastewater from the CSO system wherever redevelopment occurs in the CSO area.

The cost of fully implementing the reduction targets could be as high as $300 million, depending on the extent and nature of the future controls ultimately incorporated into the LTCP. It is appropriate that the city and the community take some time to fully understand the technical issues, costs and potential impacts on the community before proposing the projects to be implemented as part of the updated LTCP.

William Skrabak
Deputy Director,
Office of Environmental Quality

Condemnation Was Too Quick

To the Editor:

I have no dog in this fight — not even a puppy — but full disclosure, I have met the two principal partners in the St. James Group and before they presented their proposal formally I had a chance to look at it. Regardless of one’s opinion about their plan, anyone who did have a chance to meet them could not help but be impressed by their personal and professional life stories and the extent to which they had studied the idea for a sports complex. So as I am reading the comments and observing the self-congratulatory high-fives over the success in killing this proposal, I have a few observations:

1. Removing open-space playing fields from the city’s inventory is a pretty big deal, and not one to take lightly. We are a city of finite resources and every square foot of land that is built upon is one less foot for greenspace or recreational use. That being said, the fields at Hensley Park are also a finite resource in that they are largely dependent on weather, season and daylight to be used. The concept of taking open recreation space and creating new fields (albeit indoors), basketball, volleyball, a competitive-sized pool, NHL-sized ice rinks, gymnastic center, fitness center, child-care, elderly-oriented recreational facilities, etc. (the list of what was included goes on much longer) was, at the very least, worth evaluating.

2. The restriction on Hensley Park for the open space to be retained or replaced because of a $117,000 federal grant in 1977 cannot be ignored, but rather than being excited that a deal killer was found, I wish that we could have taken a step back and looked at (1) was the idea of a sports and entertainment complex a new use that was worthwhile to consider, and (2) was re-placement open space possible somewhere else in Alexandria?

3. Concern about how the new complex would benefit Alexandria citizens was a very valid issue and one that would need to be addressed thoroughly and carefully. Assurances that Alexandrians would have preferred access would need to be more than a wink and a nod, but too bad we did not at least get to a point of finding out how that would work. And unlike the fields at the existing Hensley Park, this facility could literally be a 24/7 usage.

4. Some in the community were very critical that the idea presented by the St. James Group was unsolicited. Yeah? So? When was it written that new, innovative ideas could only come to the city in one way? For anyone who follows land use decisions in Alexandria, the prospect that someone could come in, propose an idea, and it would just sail through is not paying attention. At the very least, if the City Council had thought this proposal was worth considering it would have had to go through an arduous RFP (because it was city land), and then proceed through all the community, planning, legal, land use steps that virtually any new project requires. We may still have ended up with the proposal being withdrawn, but I sure would have liked to have had the conversation.

I do not know whether this proposal was a good idea or not. I truly don’t. But I regret that the first response from some in the community was to condemn it. This was a serious proposal from two serious professionals who were prepared to invest their own money and other private capital, to take the risks, and to bring to the City of Alexandria a facility unlike anything that exists in the region and one that we could never afford on our own. It is unfortunate we will never find out if it could have worked.

David G. Speck
Alexandria
**Three Simple Ways to Safeguard Your Children:**

- **Register for one of our free Learn and Play Groups**™ for children ages 0-5 years featuring the Center’s acclaimed new curriculum.
- **Get your child a SafeAssured ID Kit** that provides vital information in case your child goes missing.
- **Become trained in the ways to prevent, recognize and respond to child sexual abuse** by signing up for one of the Center’s Darkness to Light training programs.

---

**Letters**

**From Page 12**

Katherine Viar  
Alexandria

**Cites Errors in Car Tax Bills**

To the Editor:

I have found serious errors in the City of Alexandria’s latest tax bills for personal property (such as cars). The treasury division of the city has miscalculated the taxes of seemingly all tax payers in Alexandria this time around — and that miscalculation is detrimental to the taxpayers’ finances (by hundreds and even thousands of dollars), as well as to the image and professionalism of the city of Alexandria bureaucracy. Case in point are two cars for which I have reviewed tax bills, each under a separate Alexandria account, that I am using below to display the erroneous calculations of the city bureaucrats:

1) 2011 Porsche - assessed value $61,675, assessed tax $447.29, at 5 percent tax rate.

   The calculation of the bureaucrats is wrong. In reality, for the first 6 months of 2013 the tax was 4.75 percent, and the “tax relief” was $579.50. The Porsche was registered in Virginia/Alexandria not for 2 months (60 days) as one portion of the tax bill shows, but as city records and the tax bill itself correctly indicate in another portion, only from 3/28/12 to 5/16/13, thus for only 48 days. The tax during the entire period was 4.75 percent. Which means that the tax was $8.02 per day (or $2,929.56 for 365 days in a year), or $385.25 for 48 days. Minus “relief,” which was $579.50 for 365 days, or $1.58 per day, or $76.20 for 48 days. Therefore, $385.25 - $76.20 = $309.05.

   Thus, the total tax was $309.05 for the 48 days, and not $447.29 as the Treasury Division/personal property unit erroneously calculates.

2) 2008 Hummer H3 - assessed value $20,250, tax bill for $512.50, at 5 percent tax rate.

   This is wrong. Once again, the tax rate was 4.75 percent for the first 6 months of 2013 ($480.93 for 6 months, or $961.87 if for full year), and the “tax relief” was $579.50 if for the entire year or for just 6 months was $289.50. Thus the tax for the first 6 months of 2013 for the first $20,000 of the assessed value of the car was $480.93 - $289.50 = $191.43.

   And then 4.75 percent tax with no relief on the remaining $250 of value above the first $20,000 of assessed value, which is $12. Thus, the total tax for the first 6 months of 2013 was $191.43 + $12.00 = $203.43.

   Then, the 5 percent tax on the remaining 6 months of 2013 ($1,012.50 if the entire year, or $506.25 if just 6 months) was $50.32. Thus, the total tax for the Hummer was $203.43 + $50.32 = $253.75.

   Minus “relief,” which was $579.50 for the entire year or $289.50 for 6 months, the total tax for the Hummer was $253.75 - $289.50 = -$35.75.

   Thus, the total tax was $253.75 for the 2008 Hummer H3, and not $512.50 as the Treasury Division/personal property unit erroneously calculates.

---

See Letters, Page 27
Splitting Up Jefferson-Houston

Is it time for Thomas Jefferson and Charles Hamilton Houston to break up? The marriage between a plantation slaveowner and a civil-rights pioneer has always seemed a bit unlikely — combining the old Jefferson School on West Street with the old Houston School on Wythe Street in 1970 with the construction of a modern new elementary school. For more than a decade, the school has failed to meet state and federal standards. Superintendent after superintendent has failed to improve scores, and the principal’s office has seen a revolving cast of characters come and go.

Now, Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell is threatening a take-over of the school — seizing control from local officials who have demonstrated an inability to fix the problem. McDonnell wants to hand the school over to the Opportunity Educational Institution. Not so fast, say school leaders.

One option under consideration is splitting up the school, which offers kindergarten through eighth grade, into two separate schools. One would offer kindergarten through fourth grade and another through eighth. School administrators say this option would eliminate the negative name association with the failing school and protect students and staff from a takeover.

“My husband and I believe the two schools option is the best decision,” said Beth Coast, parent of a Jefferson-Houston student, during a recent meeting of the School Board. “I am asking you to give our students a fresh start, without the stigma that the name Jefferson-Houston represents to the greater community.”

School Board member Bill Campbell says he’s not sure the option would work. “I think it’s more sleight of hand than anything,” said Campbell, who lives near the school in the Parker-Gray neighborhood. “I think it’s close to status quo, and status quo is not good enough.” Other options on the table include closing the school, redistricting and creating a charter school.

Trucking Along

Should Alexandria allow food trucks to park at Market Square? Answering that question the wrong way may get a rotten tomato flung in hostility. The city’s brick-and-mortar restaurateurs want to limit food trucks to what they call “food deserts,” places without a wealth of established restaurants.

That means no Market Square. But food truck owners and their allies in the foodie community feel that consumers should be given the choice of going to a sit-down restaurant or a drive-by automobile. Competition is the lifeblood of capitalism, after all, and so supply should be able to drive its truck to a parking spot in the 100 block of North Royal Street.

That means food trucks at Market Square. The food fight is just now cranking up and City Manager Rashad Young has appointed members of a newly created Food Truck Advisory Group. Citizen members include Yvonne Weight Callahan, Lynn Bostain, Sheena Franklin and Lori Arrasmith Quill. Restaurateurs include “Mango” Mike Anderson and celebrity chef Meshelle Armstrong. Food truck vendors include Popped Republic owner Rich Arslan and Red Hook Lobster Pound owner Doug Povich.

Invisible Bathrooms

Carr Hospitality is getting ready for round two at the Board of Architectural Review, preparing a new proposal for the Cummings-Hall in the red by about a quarter of a million dollars. When the new proposal is released next month, many Old Town residents will be carefully scrutinizing the floor-area ratios to make sure the bathrooms are counted.

— Michael Lee Pope

Latest budget blunder involves higher utility tax.

By Michael Lee Pope

Gazette Packet

Shortly after City Council members approved the budget for fiscal year 2014, they had to reconsider two dedicated sources of revenue that had been spiked despite a lack of consensus among elected officials. Now City Manager Rashad Young has acknowledged a new blunder in revenue collections, a failure to follow all the necessary steps to increase utility taxes. Speaking to reporters this week, Young called the former a “communication issue” and the latter a “mistake.”

“We try not to make mistakes,” said Young. “It just was an oversight at an extremely busy time for us when we are trying to wrap up the legislative session.”

Councillor Justin Wilson flagged the issue last weekend. He was at home on a Saturday night reading his utility bill when he realized that the rate did not reflect the new higher amount approved by elected officials.

He sent an email to city leaders, who began an investigation to get to the bottom of what happened and why. As it turns out, the increased tax was never put on the docket for a final vote — leaving City Hall in the red by about a quarter of a million dollars.

“It’s very unfortunate,” said Wilson. “It gives the taxpayers a little bit of a cut but it also costs the city $275,000, and we now have a $275,000 hole in the budget.”

ON THE ISSUE

The problem with the increase to the utility tax was not an accident, despite what the mayor said. When asked about the issue this week, Young said that it was not a mistake, despite what the vice mayor said.

“I wouldn’t describe it as a mistake,” said Young. “I think we already discussed the set-aside issue back in June, and what we are talking about now is the utility tax.”

YOUNG BLAMED the newest budget problem on a scheduling error. City officials have recently installed software known as “Legistar,” which allows them to put items on the docket for City Council meetings. The problem with the increase to the utility tax was that it was never placed on the docket for a second reading, which means that it never became active.

See Latest Fiscal Year. Page 15

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Latest Fiscal Year Follies

When asked how that could have happened, Young explained that the item was never typed into Legistar. "It failed to occur amongst all of the revenues and appropriation ordinances that are required to be enacted and adopted," said Young. "This is one that just slipped through the cracks, quite frankly."

No heads will roll, Young said, and nobody will be reassigned to a different job. Instead, city officials are going to docket the item for September. That means monthly utility bills will increase 60 cents to $3 for gas and electric services. In the future, Young said city officials will revisit their process for docket management and focus attention on responsibilities of the budget officials. They will also explore legal options for combining tax and fee changes into one or two documents rather than setting them all up as separate votes.

"When we were going through that process this year, I suggested that we should throw them all into the same ordinance," said Wilson. "It's better for the public, and it's more transparent."
Newcomers Guide

Agenda: Alexandria

Agenda: Alexandria is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization whose mission is to provoke thoughtful discussions on areas of interest to the Alexandria community. It takes a look at the issues affecting Alexandria without taking sides.

Agenda: Alexandria, which began in 1998, sponsors eight dinner meetings a year with presentations on topics of interest to Alexandrians. Membership is $15 a year and open to anyone. One does not have to live or work in Alexandria to be a member.

Topics include issues of importance to the community such as the new healthcare system school turnarounds, budgeting for capital expenses, care and reentry for persons with mental illness, especially those in the justice system, and preparedness for emergencies. The group is also looking at its emerging role as the region’s new dining capital and having a “fireside chat” with Alexandria Circuit Court Judge Nolan Dawkins, an Alexandria native. One month is being kept open for an issue that may emerge during the year.

Meetings are held at the Holiday Inn Eisenhower Metro Center, 2460 Eisenhower Avenue. Reception (cash bar) is at 6:30; dinner at 6:45; programs (free to members; $5 for non-members) begin at 7:15. Dinner for members who reserve by the published deadline is $28 (nonmembers pay $35) while dinner for members who reserve after the published deadline is $33 (nonmembers pay $40). Presentations are followed by a question and answer session based on written questions from the audience. Programs end promptly at 9 p.m.

Suggestions by members for program topics and speakers are welcome. Board members (who wear special name badges outlined in red) plan and organize each program: contacting and coordinating with the speakers, introducing programs, and assisting with other duties, including the question and answer session at the end of each program.

Agenda: Alexandria is a 501(c)(3) under the guidelines of the IRS. For more information, contact Executive Director, Sherry Brown, 703-549-0466 or agendaalexandria@aol.org. Visit agendaalexandria.org.

Sesquicentennial Committee

As part of Virginia’s emphasis on its important history, the Alexandria Sesquicentennial Committee plans, develops and presents programs and activities commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. Under the auspices of the Office of Historic Alexandria, meetings are held at Lloyd House at 6 p.m. bimonthly and last about an hour. It plans to present eight programs a year and welcomes volunteers to assist in these efforts.

To volunteer and get more information, contact Ellen Tabb at ProTabb1@hotmail.com or 703-549-0466 or Lance Mallamo at Lance.mallamo@alexandria.gov or 703-746-4554.

Democratic Committee

The Alexandria Democratic Committee is the local committee created by and composed of citizens of Alexandria who share the political beliefs and aims of the Democratic Party. The ADC welcomes new members and encourages political participation on every level. The ADC meets the first Monday night of every month at the TC Williams Minnie Howard Campus (3801 W. Braddock Road) as well as participates in and holds events year-round all over Alexandria. For more information, call 703-549-3367 or visit the ADC’s website at URL http://www.alexdcms.org.

Inova Alexandria Hospital

Inova Alexandria Hospital is committed to provide high-quality medical services and innovative technologies in a caring environment. It is dedicated to offering programs and services to meet the healthcare needs of the diverse communities.

Some of its services: Cancer center, Cardiovascular and Interventional radiology, Cardiac, pulmonary and physical rehabilitation, Diagnostic radiology, Occupational health, Certified stroke center, Surgical services including our Joint Commission-certified hip and knee replacement center; neurosurgery, and cardiac surgery, and Women’s center.

For more information, visit inova.org/iah or call 703-504-3000.

NEWS

OAR, Church, City Join Forces

Coordinated effort to ensure “second chances.”

By Harry Covert

Dr. Gail Arnall and Pastor Dan Carlton.

O fender Aid and Restoration (OAR) and Downtown Baptist Church have joined efforts to help those leaving jail sentences return to their communities.

Dr. Gail Arnall, OAR’s executive director, and Pastor Dan Carlton have forged an effort that aids offenders “right in the heart of Old Town.”

Within a few weeks, through facilities of Downtown Baptist, OAR has begun work with 10 clients “who need re-entry services,” Arnall said.

The city of Alexandria has also joined forces with the groups to fund the work for office hours in the city.

Carlton said OAR’s mission to “strengthen community through second chances” resonates well “with the kind of church we want to be. We are excited to be able to partner with OAR in providing a place for their work in Alexandria.”

Elizabeth Jones, chief operation officer and director of programs for OAR, said the second chances offered by Alexandrians returning to the community is an asset.

“When we were notified by the city it was funding the program, Downtown Baptist stepped up with the space we needed,” Jones said.

OAR is known as one of the best charities of Northern Virginia and Greater Washington and a major player in helping ex-offenders.

“People who do not have much when they come out of incarceration, need services to be located in a convenient place,” Arnall said. “This is the reason we are so pleased to be able to offer case management right in the heart of Old Town at Downtown Baptist Church.”

OAR is supported by the courts of Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax as well as the municipal and state governments.

One of the concerns for ex-offenders lately in Alexandria has been the relocation of the State Probation and Parole Office. It was forced to relocate from downtown to 4020 Eisenhower Ave., where there is no close access to the Metro and inadequate bus service.

“Those on probation and parole will have to take off at least a half-day of work, if not an entire day, just to see their probation officers,” Arnall said. “This is another barrier to re-entry. Most employers won’t allow that amount of time off during the work week.”

Chief Judge Becky J. Moore of Alexandria General District Court, supports the work of OAR especially in Alexandria.

“I had the honor of serving as chairperson of OAR’s board of directors before I began my judicial service. OAR is an invaluable resource for offenders to utilize as they begin positively contributing to our community,” she said.

Connect and Contribute

Service and citizen’s associations lead community engagement.

By Jeanne Theis Mann

Alexandria is home to many diverse neighborhoods, each with its own unique traditions. As each neighborhood has developed, so have the service groups and citizens associations that provide more than just an opportunity to meet and greet neighbors. Whether they have five minutes or five hours, consider joining one of the many organizations in Alexandria that help solve problems, improve lives, connect citizens and strengthen the community.

Rotary Club of Alexandria
P.O. Box 320066
Alexandria, VA 22320
www.alexandriarotary.org

Kiwanis, Kiwanis of Del Ray
www.alexandriakiwanis.org

Jaycees P.O. Box 1836
Alexandria, VA 22313
www.alexjaycees.org

Volunteer Alexandria
123 N. Alfred St., 3rd Floor
703-836-2176
www.volunteeralexandria.org

North Old Town Citizens Association P.O. Box 25571
Alexandria, VA 22313
703-549-5849
www.notice-alexandria.org

Old Town Civic Association P.O. Box 1213
Alexandria, VA 22313
703-549-5849
www.notice-alexandria.org

Founders Park Community Association
www.alexandriafounderspark.org

St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes students Sarah Shaw, 17, and Katarina Williams, 18, volunteer at the Lemonade stand in Market Square as part of the citywide Spring for Alexandria day of service in May.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Recognized as a world leader in marketing exceptional properties, we have prominent offices across the globe, which means your home has exposure all over the world. Over $600 million of national real estate sold to international buyers. Nationally, we handle an average of $70.1 million in luxury sales every day!

Kathleen Kennedy | Branch Vice President
Old Town Alexandria | 310 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703-283-3321
Now accepting new agents
#1 Long and Foster Agent in Alexandria!  
CHRIS WHITE  ~  703.283.9028  
www.chrisandjeggywiby.com  
chris.white@longandfoster.com

#1 Seller of Luxury Homes in Northern Virginia  
The Results Are Extraordinary.

There’s a reason why Long & Foster sells more $1 million and above homes than our nearest competitors by far.

"No one has more expertise selling luxury homes than Long & Foster®."

CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL PROPERTIES  

There is NO BETTER TIME to get your Real Estate License than RIGHT NOW!  
The 90 hour evening and Saturday Prerequisites Classes will begin September 10th** in our Alexandria Office for only $990 including books.

Long & Foster has a wide variety of technology, tools, and training that provides our agents with a competitive edge in today’s real estate market. If you are looking to begin an exciting and fulfilling new career, start with us!

* Full-Time Broker Support  
** Certified Ninja Selling Training Classes  
Week 1: Learning Opportunities  
Week 2: Learn with the Largest Independent Real Estate Company in the US!

Contact us today for more information and to register for classes.

Your Career in Real Estate

& Long & Foster / Old Town Historic District Office  
• #1 Long & Foster Office in Virginia  
703.683.0400  
400 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
Fax 703.683

Follow us on:  

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com  
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com  
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com  
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
There’s No Place Like Home

Meet John Smith, a London taxi driver with two wives in two different parts of London and a very tight schedule to keep. This farce brings absurdity to the technological forefront.

**September 7–28, 2013**

The Birchmere Music Hall features world-renown bluegrass, country and jazz entertainers.

More than three millions visitors frequent the historic streets of Alexandria each year.
Issues Facing Alexandria Residents

**Changing City Politics:** For the first time in the long history of Alexandria politics, the election for Alexandria City Council was moved to the general election ballot. The move was orchestrated by Democrats, who lost a seat in 2009. When the election was moved to November 2012, when a record number of Democrats were elected, the election for Alexandria City Council was three years, which means the current council terms are set to expire, setting the stage for potential one-party government. But the next election for City Council will be in November 2015. Democrats won’t have the benefit of a presidential election to boost their numbers, and the top of the ticket will be the state Senate.

**Risky Business:** Alexandria taxpayers are about to gamble on the future, rolling the dice on development at a former railroad yard to fund a new Metro station. City officials are expecting Potomac Yard to generate $1 billion worth of revenue in the next three decades, an expansion of the tax base that would help fund construction of a Metro station that could open its doors as early as 2018. But that plan comes with significant risk. Depending on the location and design of the station, the project could cost the city anywhere from $194 million to $459 million—all of which would be borrowed by the city government to finance the construction of the facility.

**Raising the Ceiling:** Alexandria is about to hit the roof, literally. According to a recent report by the Alexandria Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee, the city is on track to exceed its debt ceiling with or without the borrowing needed to finance the new Potomac Yard Metro. Even when taking the $194 million project off the books, the city still has a massive amount of uncertainty about everything from the waterfront plan and the Beauregard redevelopment to federal demands on the sewer system. Members of the Commission say additional borrowing would “adversely impact” the city’s bond rating and “significantly deteriorate the city’s performance relative to its debt policy guidelines.”

**Landmark Redevelopment:** Earlier this year, members of the City Council approved a plan to redevelop the struggling Landmark Mall. Sears and Macy’s will remain, but the rest of the mall will be demolished to make way for a new open-air, mixed-use community. The 750,000-square-foot redevelopment will include 285,000 square feet of retail, 400 residential units and an upscale dining movie theater. Demolition is expected to begin next summer.

**Waterfront War:** Last year, members of the previous City Council approved a controversial plan to almost triple density at three sites slated for development. Critics say the proposal was too large and would choke Old Town. Supporters say the new zoning would create a sense of vitality and bring new tax revenue. A series of lawsuits were filed to challenge the plan and the process that city leaders used to deny citizens an opportunity to protest. The city prevailed in most of those cases, although one challenge is still being considered by the Virginia Supreme Court. One proposal has already been submitted for the Cummings Turner block, which will be considered by the Board of Architectural Review next month. And the sale of Robinson North is expected in the coming months.

**School Takeover:** Jefferson-Houston School is the only school in Northern Virginia where test scores have been so bad for so long that state leaders are threatening a takeover. Next year, members of the newly created Educational Opportunities Institution are expected to seize control of the school. Many of the details have yet to be worked out, though. Will teachers at the school be employees of Alexandria City Public Schools or the commonwealth of Virginia? Will the janitors be contracted by the city or will a charter school operation step in and handle operations? Alexandria School Board members are also considering a plan that would split the existing school into two facilities, potentially protecting it from a takeover if state officials approve.

**Gutter Politics:** Every year, the city of Alexandria dumps 10 million gallons of raw sewage into the Potomac River under a permit from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. That permit is about to expire, and city leaders are trying to get a new one that will allow Alexandria to continue dumping untreated human waste into the Potomac River until 2035. Critics say it would be a mistake to wait 20 years to solve the problem, although city leaders warn that the cost of taking action would be at least $100 million. State leaders in Richmond will have the final say when they determine if they will grant the permit.

---

**Michael Lee Pope**
Carbon Copy performs during the 2006 First Night Alexandria Battle of the Bands teen finals. After a seven-year absence, the popular talent competition will return again this year.

Rock On!

First Night Alexandria is bringing back the competition for best amateur band or solo artist with the Battle of the Bands competition to be held Dec. 31 during the city’s annual New Year’s Eve celebration. The competition is open to all area amateur bands and solo performers through 14-19.

The first round of the competition will take place via online voting. To qualify, performers must submit a video of their performance which will be available for viewing on the FNA website beginning next month. Fans, families and friends can vote for their favorite video and performers with the most votes will compete in the final Battle on New Year’s Eve.

For complete rules, deadlines and preliminary judging information, visit www.FirstNightAlexandria.org/battle or email info@firstnightalexandria.org.

September 2013

SAVINGS/SEPT. 7-8
King Street Art Festival. Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on King Street, Alexandria. In a burst of vibrant color and activity, the 11th Annual Alexandria King Street Art Festival transforms the city’s historic main street into a world-class outdoor art gallery.

December 2013

TUESDAY/DEC. 31

April 2014


Celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day at Springfest 2013. This event is free for family at the Workhouse Arts Center, 901 Ox Road, Lorton. Enjoy pony rides, games, farmers market, environmental workshops and more. Visit www.faifaxcounty.gov/living/environmental/earthday/ or for more Earth Day events.

May 2014

Spring for Alexandria. A multi-day celebration where the focus is on philanthropy and service to Alexandria—“Where we work, play, live and give.” All City facilities, libraries and recreation centers. Visit http://volunteersalex.org for individual events.

June 2014


South Run Park, Reservation Drive, Springfield. Springfield Days is a community wide celebration that includes a parade, “Pet Fest” and more. Visit www.springfielddays.com.

Cardboard Boat Regatta, Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Witness the cardboard boat creations race along Lake Accotink’s shoreline. 703-569-0285 or jule.tahan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

July 2014

USA & Alexandria Birthday Celebration. 6 p.m. concert, 9:30 p.m. fireworks, at Oronoco Bay Park, Alexandria. Enjoy a concert by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, birthday cake, food and fireworks. The evening culminates in Tchaikovsky’s “1812 Overture.” Free.

August 2014

A selection of upcoming theatre, music and art shows in and around Alexandria & Mount Vernon. If you know of missing venues or organizations, please email the information to cbryan@connectionnewspapers.com

219

Aldersgate Community Theatre
With a home in Wesley Hall of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria, the ACCT puts on plays and musicals for families. ACCT has a professional stage and are members of the Northern Virginia Theatre Alliance and the Washington Area Theater Community Honors. www.acctonline.org.

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra
The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra performs at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. 3001 N. Beauregard St. 703-548-0885 or www.alexSym.org.

Art on the Avenue
On Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray. Three hundred-plus artists/artisans sell their work (all price ranges), creating mini-exhibits down the avenue. Music stages, a Children's Stage, a pie baking contest and food round out the fest. www.arontheavenue.org.

The Birchmere
The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. “America’s Legendary Music Hall” showcases music in a dinner-theater style. All guests must have a ticket. 703-548-7500 or birchmere.com.

The Little Theatre of Alexandria

Metro Stage

Morrison House

Mount Vernon Community Theatre
1900 Eakin St., Alexandria. MVCC’s programs are modeled: each year three to four productions are presented, directed by professionals and featuring children in all roles. Additionally MVCC, a non-profit, has an active education program which includes after-school programs in Fairfax County Public Schools (both PTA sponsored and outreach/grant based), as well as a spring break and summer camp. 703-360-0686 or http://mvcc.org/.

O’Connells
Daniel O’Connell’s Restaurant and Bar, 112 King St., Alexandria. Serving fresh specials and old favorites, the food at O’Connell’s is accompanied by traditional live Irish music. 703-739-1124 or www.danielloconnells.com.

Port City Playhouse
Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Featuring theater productions for all tastes, the Port City Playhouse is a fun, Alexandria-based theater company. 703-838-2880 or www.portcityplayhouse.org.

St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub
St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub is a neighborhood gathering place with a coffeehouse atmosphere and plenty of entertainment. 703-739-9268 or stelmoscoffeepub.com.

Torpedo Art Factory
105 North Union St., Alexandria. The world-renowned art center on the waterfront features the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, art exhibits, classes through The Art League School, and the Cafe by Bread & Chocolate. For general information, 703-838-4565. For information on art classes, 703-683-2323.

p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. All ages can watch a film based on a children’s classic book. Free. Registration required. 703-768-6700.
Concert. 8 p.m. at the Old Town Theater, 815 King St. Caravan of Thieves and the Funhouse perform. $20. Call 703-546-5135 or visit www.oldtowntheater914.com.

THURSDAY/AUG. 29
Movie Matinee for Children.
4 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children in grades K-8 can watch a movie. Free. 703-746-1783.
Blockbuster Thursday. 6:30 p.m. at Beatty Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. Call 703-746-1702 for title.
Film Series. 6 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Watch “Moulin Rouge.” Free. 703-746-1704.
Martha’s Family Movie. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. All ages can watch a film based on a children’s classic book. Free. Registration required. 703-768-6700.
Concert. 8 p.m. at the Old Town Theater, 815 King St. Caravan of Thieves and the Funhouse perform. $20. Call 703-546-5135 or visit www.oldtowntheater914.com.

THURSDAY/AUG. 29
Theatre Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Rd. Metropolitan Performing Arts Theatre’s ensemble presents “Fame: the Musical.” $20. Call 703-584-2900 or visit www.metrotheatre.org.

FRIDAY/AUG. 30
Annual Big chalk Draw. 8-10 a.m. at Art at the Center. 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Join in a morning of chalk drawing in the parking lot. Free, everyone welcome. Art at the Center will also be collecting new school supplies and backpacks for children in the community. Visit www.artatthecenter.org.

SATURDAY/AUG. 31
Last Taste of summer Wine Event. 2-5 p.m. at Balduccis’s Food Lover’s Markets, 600 Franklin St. All wines will be paired with gourmet snacks. Visit www.balduccis.com or 703-549-6611.
Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Come see The Outlaws perform. $35. Visit www.theoutlawsmusic.com. Robyn Ludwick will open.
The Best in Family Dining

An Alexandria community fixture for more than 100 years, the Royal Restaurant offers the best in Greek, Italian and American cuisine. Enjoy burgers, steaks, prime rib, chicken, seafood, pasta and full salad bar complete with special children’s menu items.

Thursday, Sept. 5

Time for 2s: 11:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories, activities and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Terry Tows and Thrones: 10:30 a.m. at Sherrard Library, 2501 Sherrard Hall Lane. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories and fingerplays. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Story Time: 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonweath Ave. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1705.

Little One-Downs: 11:15 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Paws to Read: 5-5:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children in grades 1-6 can read to friendly dogs. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Pajama Party: 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 3-6 can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and listen to stories. Free. 703-746-1704.

Night Time Tales: 7 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children ages 3-5 can listen to stories. Registration required. Call 703-973-0810.

Movies at Martha's: 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Adults and teens age 13 and up can enjoy a movie. Call for title. 703-766-6700.

THURSDAY/SATURDAY/SUNDAY/OCT. 20 Art Exhibit. See “Deep, Full, And Not Quite Real” at Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. See how artists play with notions of science, psychological state and more to create art. Free. Call 703-548-0035 or visit www.avfaoa.org.

SEPT. 5-OCt.

Art Exhibit. Freshnak “Xiku” Nixhuk explores the boundaries between figurative and abstract sculpture in his solo exhibit “Structural Elements” at The Art League Gallery in the Torpedo Arts Complex, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.artleague.org or 703-683-1780.

FRIDAY/SAT.

Friday Affair Market. Noon-4 p.m. at historic Hollin Hall, 1909 Windmill Lane. Purchase baked goods, treats, flowers and crafts from local vendors. Held the first and third Fridays of every month through December. Call 202-256-5332.

E-Reader Cover Craft Project. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Librarians will show how to turn a hardback book into a cover for your e-reader. Participation is limited, 703-746-1745.

Theater Production. 8 p.m. at Old Town Theater, 815 S. King St. King’s Bible Stories Theatre will perform “Once Upon a Time Shop.” Call 703-544-5115 or go to OldTownTheater1914.com for tickets.


SATURDAY/SUNDAY/SEPT. 7-29 Art Exhibit. See “In the Flesh 4” at the Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. The exhibit examines contemporary figurative art. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target for more.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 8 Alexandria King Street Art Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Old Town Alexandria, 480 King St. Free and open to the public. Go to ArtFestival.com or call 561-461-5555.

Movie Musical Series. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Call for the title. 703-746-1751.

Opening Reception. 4:6 p.m. meet the artists of “Deep, Full, And Not Quite Real” at Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. See how artists play with notions of science, psychological state and more to create art. Free. Call 703-546-4035 or visit www.avfaoa.org.

“Bounty of the Bay” Paint. 6-8 p.m. at Jackson20.com. Meet local artists and enjoy the bounty of the Chesapeake Bay. Free. Visit www.jackson20.com or call 703-842-2739.

MONDAY/SEPT.

Little One-Downs: 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-746-1702.

See Calendar, Page 25
Calendar

From Page 24
746-1702 ext. 5.
Baby Lap Sits. 10:30 a.m. or 2:30 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Literacy programs for parents and babies. Ages birth through 12 months. Registration required. Call 703-973-0010.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at Beatty Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months with adult. Free. 703-746-1702.

Read to the Dog. 2 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 6-12 can read aloud to a trained therapy dog. Register at 703-768-6700.

Wild and Wonderful: Hidden Pond. 3-30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landowsone Centre. Children ages 6-12 can learn about animals in nature. Free. Registration required, 703-339-4610.

Read, Sing & Play Baby. 4 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children up to 11 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Interfaith Book Club. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Read nonfiction works that strive to find common ground through recognizing and celebrating common values. Free. Call 703-746-1743 for title.

Let’s Talk Books. 7 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Discuss “Flight Behavior: A Novel” by Barbara Kingsolver. Free. 703-746-1703.

Books and Ideas. 7:30 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2503 Sherwood Hall Lane. Discuss “River of Doubt” by Candace Millard. Free. 703-768-3645.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 10

Stories and Songs. 10 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 1-4 can enjoy stories and more. Sign up half-hour before. Free. 703-746-1705.

Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Time For 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Early Words. 10:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landowsone Centre. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy songs and stories. Registration required, 703-339-4610.

Small Wonders. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library, 2503 Sherwood Hall St. Stories, songs and games for ages 12-23 months with an adult. Registration required. Call 703-768-3645.

Stories and Songs. 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 1-4 can enjoy stories and more. Sign up half-hour before. Free. 703-746-1703.

Tuesday Tots. 11 a.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Ages 2-3 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1704.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1704.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months with adult. Free. 703-746-1702.

Story Time in the Afternoon. 2 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 2-5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1704.

Game Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 8-12 can play with their friends. Free. 703-746-1702.

Second Tuesday Book Group. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Discuss “Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter” by Tom Franklin. Free. Visit secondtuesdaybookgroup.blogspot.com or call 703-339-4610.

Evening Book Group. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Adults can discuss “Inside of a Dog” by Alexander Horowitz. Free. 703-768-6700.

Check Out Plan B

Artist Tory Cowles, a Potomac resident with a studio in Alexandria, will be part of an exhibition of paintings packed with color, pattern and intensity, also featuring Greg Minah and Beverly Ryan. An opening reception is planned for Saturday, Sept. 7, 6-8 p.m. at Gallery Plan B, 1530 Fourteenth St. NW, Washington, D.C. The Exhibition continues through Sunday, Oct. 13. Visit www.galleryplanb.com or call 202-234-2711.

CALIFORNIA

12 p.m. at Petaluma Library, 707 Petaluma Blvd. Story time for ages six to 10 with a special craft related to the featured book. Free. Call 707-763-4135.

1:30 p.m. at Petaluma Library, 707 Petaluma Blvd. Story time for ages 11 to 15 with a special craft related to the featured book. Free. Call 707-763-4135.

Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 1-4 can enjoy stories and more. Sign up half-hour before. Free. 703-746-1705.

Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Time For 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Early Words. 10:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landowsone Centre. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy songs and stories. Registration required, 703-339-4610.

Small Wonders. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library, 2503 Sherwood Hall St. Stories, songs and games for ages 12-23 months with an adult. Registration required. Call 703-768-3645.

Stories and Songs. 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 1-4 can enjoy stories and more. Sign up half-hour before. Free. 703-746-1703.

Tuesday Tots. 11 a.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Ages 2-3 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1704.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1704.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at Beatty Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months with adult. Free. 703-746-1702.

Story Time in the Afternoon. 2 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 2-5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1704.

Game Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 8-12 can play with their friends. Free. 703-746-1702.

Second Tuesday Book Group. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Discuss “Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter” by Tom Franklin. Free. Visit secondtuesdaybookgroup.blogspot.com or call 703-339-4610.

Evening Book Group. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Adults can discuss “Inside of a Dog” by Alexander Horowitz. Free. 703-768-6700.

Calendar

TORY COWLES
GREG MINAH
BEVERLY RYAN

Enjoy the Carefree Lifestyle You Deserve

If you’ve been thinking about moving to the Hermitage, now is one of the best times ever. We’re offering special incentives on our beautiful featured apartments. And once you’ve settled in, you’ll discover why many people like you have made the move: the chance to experience a new lifestyle with an array of services and amenities. Just ask resident John Mitchler, who appreciates the freedom from home maintenance and the opportunity to participate in clubs and social activities. Our residents also rave about our superb dining service, our courteous and helpful staff, and an overall feeling of caring and security that comes with living at the Hermitage.

You’ll also gain peace of mind knowing that health care and supportive services are available right here, if you ever need them.

For more information, call 703-797-3814.

"I’ve made a lot of good friends in moving to the Hermitage.”
— John Mitchler

Move into one of our featured apartments and take advantage of special incentives, saving you thousands.

Call 703-797-3814 for details.

Senior Living in the Heart of Northern Virginia Celebrating 20 Years of Service to Area Seniors
Alexandria, VA
www.Hermitage-Nova.com

Summer Specials

Soft Shell Crabs • Bouillabaisse
Frog Legs • Beef Wellington
Coq au vin • Cold Soup Trio
Chef Specials • Cold Salmon
Platter • Stuffed Avocado with Crab

127 N. Washington St., Old Town • 703-548-4661
Smoke-Free Restaurant
www.lerefugealexandria.com
As the time come for Virginians to reconsider using lethal injections and the electric chair to fulfill the death penalty? That was the question more than 80 Alexandrians discussed on a recent Friday “Happy Hour” event on North Alfred Street.

Christopher Leibig, a local author and defense attorney, spearheaded the program that included prominent legislators, lawyers and citizens, both for and against the continued use of the death penalty in capital crimes.

Stephen A. Northrup, executive director of Virginians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, told local participants the “ultimate sentence” is inappropriate for a 21st century society. Northrup said, “There’s no question whether Virginia will join the growing list of states that have abolished it. The only question is when.”

Northrup’s comments echoed others. He didn’t equivocate on his objection to the penalty and said, “The death penalty is unnecessary, unwise and inappropriate.”

He also discussed the political issues, noting that legislators and citizens may be ready to change state laws, especially when taxpayers realize the costs and its ineffectiveness at furthering “legitimate justice.”

Dan Goldman, a capital defense lawyer, discussed developments on the matter in the state’s courts of record. Meghan Shapiro, also a capital defense attorney, gave the history of the electric chair in the Old Dominion and said it was a “cause to painful death.” She said the Supreme Court of Virginia “will not address this cruel and unusual punishment issue.”

Leibig said there is a growing movement to revisit Virginia’s use of the death penalty. Legislators and state leaders will find increased lobbyists at work to legally end executions in the state.

Among organizers with Leibig were Shapiro, Joni C. Robin and Heidi Meinzer.

End Legal Executions, Say Local Activists
Group gathers to discuss state’s death penalty.

By Harry Covert

Christopher Leibig

A long line, filled with members of the T.C. Williams High School community, waited for the Aug. 21 event to begin.

Back-to-School Family Night at TC

A dinner including pizza and apples was part of the free event. T.C. Williams Principal Suzanne Maxey was on hand to pass out food.

One of the most popular tables at the event belonged to Raffaella. After being bullied herself, the 5th grader came up with her own anti-bullying character to inspire others to help put an end to it.

The staff of the Campagna Center, including Associate Director Chrystal Starr Brown, Karla Kelby, and teacher Shirley Simmons were on hand to talk about their programs which strive to improve the community through a commitment to learning and achievement. Their Campagna Kids program, which serves K-5 aged children can be found in multiple locations.

Scottie, the Campagna Center mascot, was a popular guest at the family event. The Campagna Center’s booth was equally popular with parents who were interested in learning about the services that they offer.

Stephen A. Northrup, executive director, Virginians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty.
Letters

Don’t Blame City Attorney

To the Editor:

I don’t think it’s fair to blame the city attorney for spending tax money to defend City Hall’s bad decisions in court. City Hall is his client, so legal ethics require him to defend City Hall’s decisions.

The waterfront is no open-and-shut case, but a matter of great precedent whose outcome will decide the parameters of nearby property owners’ rights and governmental responsibilities. And of course the city attorney’s job is to defend his client, so legal ethics require him to defend City Hall’s decisions.

If the average difference between the already high and unjustified tax, and the imputed income of three years more, is $203.43 + $256.25 = $459.68, and not $512.50 as the Treasury Division/personal property unit erroneously calculated. There were 30,978 families residing in Alexandria in 2010, which conservatively means about the same number of vehicles are registered in Alexandria — if not several times more. If the average difference between the already high and unjustified tax, and the improperly calculated one are about $100 per car, that’s extra “unearned income” of $3,097,800 for the always-hungry Treasury Division.

I also requested that a public apology and notice be issued on the website of the City of Alexandria government. And of course the officials who did this serious error should be fired or at the very least severely disciplined. They basically wanted free and easy money from tens of thousands of people, which in other circumstances could be viewed as an attempt of defrauding consumers.

I hope all readers of the newspaper will express their sentiments to city officials.

Adil Bagirov, Ph.D.

City Deserves ‘F’ Grade

To the Editor:

I am sad — no, make that disgusted, at how poorly the City of Alexandria has served the children attending Jefferson-Houston Elementary school. Educating our children is after all, a major responsibility that citizens entrust to the local government. The latest test results are abysmal, with only 22 percent of fourth graders passing the reading test, and with a passing rate under 50 percent for practically all tested. This poor showing has been going on for over 13 years, with cries for help by residents whose children are obligated to attend this school, only to be told that it is the parents’ responsibility to be involved with the educational process. Although parental engagement is an important part of the educational process, a supposed lack of parental engagement does not explain how Jefferson-Houston has become one of the worst rated elementary schools in the state of Virginia. Comparisons are available at schooldigger.com, which ranks Jefferson-Houston 989th out of 1001 elementary schools in the state. Zillow, which is a commonly used real estate search engine, has a school ranking feature and it gives Jefferson-Houston a 1 out of 10 rating. Not many parents are going to give our neighborhoods a second look after seeing that number, or they will move out of the neighborhood as the children reach school age.

Some years ago, there was more transparency in the process, since it was possible to see per capita spending for each child by looking at the School Board budget documents. A quick review of the 2002 budget showed that the per-child spending at Jefferson-Houston was about $4000 less than at Lyles-Crouch, and that classroom sizes were almost twice the size as those at Lyles-Crouch, which had teaching assistants as adjuncts to its classes. This is not intended to suggest that Lyles-Crouch was underserving of these features, but it does question the city’s commitment to Jefferson-Houston.

The city is now crying foul about the state’s intervention, but it would have been a surprise if the state did not intervene, given the results.

The city’s solution is to build a new larger school, yet it is not clear how this will address the root cause, nor has it taken responsibility for allowing Jefferson-Houston to become the 12th worst elementary school in the state.

Real estate models all point to schools as an integral part of determining housing prices, so this school failure affects Northeast, Inner City and Old Town North. However, the greatest sin of all is our failure to level the educational playing field by ensuring that more than 22 percent of the fourth graders attending Jefferson-Houston are able to read and write at acceptable levels.

The money that is being spent on the new school would be better served if only a fraction was directed to early childhood intervention and enrichment programs. The City of Alexandria gets an “F” for the management of the Jefferson-Houston School.

Connie Graham
Alexandria
City Relies On ‘Lawyering’

To the Editor:

I read your article entitled “City Attorney Gave Green Light to Hensley Before All Documents Were Reviewed” with interest. It is a reflection of a disturbing trend in city government in the last few years to transform every policy debate into legal drama. We have seen this soap opera play out on the waterfront and other land use decisions; with whistleblowers; and with contractors. Sometimes it ends in protracted and pitched litigation; other times there are tortured and novel interpretations to claim that there is only one legally permissible policy choice (which just so happens to coincide with the interests of our one party leadership).

History repeats itself, first as tragedy and then as farce. The Hensley debacle was not the first time that the city was surprised by a deed or grant that restricted land use contrary to the power brokers’ desires. In 2000, the city aggressively tried to shut down Burke Library. The community coalesced around saving Burke as a library, and the city fought against its citizens very hard. A citizen located the deed for Burke Library, which stated that the land was deeded to the city as long as it remained a library or ancillary facility. This stopped the plan to close Burke Library dead in its tracks. After a long period of acrimony and scheming, the city got serious about talking Burke Library’s future with its citizens. Today, there is a successful joint library and school administrative office at the site.

Unfortunately, the city did not learn much from its relatively recent experience with Burke Library; overlooking critical legal requirements and documents to compel a predetermined political conclusion is a recipe for disaster, and in the end rarely works.

In April 2013, in the aftermath of a campaign to undermine rights of citizens to achieve a particular result on the waterfront, I wrote a letter expressing concern that the city was pursuing a policy of lawyering its way to pre-determined political conclusions, turning ordinary policy matters into a battle of the legal memos, while blowing off fundamental due process. Because of its reliance upon making policy through lawyering, it spends way too much time and treasure positioning itself for legal skirmishes; and with whistleblowers; and with contractors.

The What’s New Alexandria effort remains a promising (if flawed) initiative to break this type of thinking and return policy issues to the public arena, to be thrashed out in the normal give and take involving citizens with different interests, and their government. On occasion, it may get heated; most of the time, it will not. As we saw with Burke, an adult conversation (even when heated) gets better results than legal scheming. But it is a far better approach, with a much better track record, than using questionable legal maneuvering to drown voices and please city hall.

Frank Putzu
Alexandria

Another Turn For the Worse

To the Editor:

City Housing Director Mildrilyn Davis recently released a statement seeking to “clear up a few misconceptions about Hunting Point.” In fact, that statement is a fount of misconceptions, and raises the question of why the city housing director felt it necessary to praise an out-of-town developer that is in the process of removing over 500 units of affordable and workforce housing from the rolls of such a property that the city has repeatedly cited as a very important source of it.

The tone is set early on in a condensed history of VDOT and the Point when Ms. Davis repeats VDOT’s own disingenuous excuse for its role in this mess, that it was not equipped to manage apartment complexes. In fact, VDOT is a massive bureaucracy with enormous resources. It commissioned inspection reports of the buildings, which reports detailed the necessary repairs, and hired a professional real estate services company to manage both Hunting Towers and Hunting Terrace. The VDOT history with both complexes is worthy of a long overdue investigative multi-part story. Its shameless neglect of the properties while reaping millions of dollars in profits was entirely willful.

But then such “clarifications” run throughout Ms. Davis’s statement. For example, there is a reference to the Landlord Tenant Relations Division of the Housing Office. Hunting Point residents are indeed familiar with the Division, as we filed a 17-page complaint with it on Aug. 16, after repeated refusals by Laramar management to meet with us. The complaint details a number of issues that appear to us to violate a number of provisions of the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act.

As of the date this letter is submitted, the Landlord Tenant Relations Division is conducting an investigation into the issues in our complaint, including the poorly planned and excessively intrusive way that Laramar is performing in-unit repairs, and the repeatedly inaccurate “communications” accompanying that work. Should the Landlord Tenant Relations Division find merit in at least some of those issues — and we do not see how they could fail to do so — then the next stage would be an attempt to conciliate those issues with Laramar.

In that context, Ms. Davis’s repeated endorsements of Laramar practices specific to those issues in her statement of Aug. 22 are entirely premature and inappropriate, given that the Landlord Tenant Relations Division is a subordinate office of hers, and the ongoing nature of the investigation. Why would Ms. Davis choose this point in time to undercut the efforts of a Division in her own office and the efforts of residents by publicly backing Laramar?

Frank Putzu
Alexandria
At VietFest
Crowds helped celebrate Vietnamese culture, art and history at the VietFest 2013 outside Landmark Mall on Saturday, Aug. 24. The VietFest group dancers perform a traditional northern Vietnamese dance.

The Landmark Mall parking lot was filled with guests standing in line to taste Vietnamese cuisine such as pad thai, chicken on a stick and veggi lomein.

Stacey Vuong takes a bite of grilled steak kabob.

At VietFest

Inova Hosts Annual Safety Fair

Firetrucks were popular with the children who attended the Safety Fair. Firefighter Kandra Wilson, from Station 203, helped children like Lucas climb up and experience what it’s like to sit inside.

Most of the food was provided by Firehouse Subs. Franchise owner Barry Pitkin was on hand to serve sandwiches to everyone who attended the event.

The Landmark Mall parking lot was filled with guests standing in line to taste Vietnamese cuisine such as pad thai, chicken on a stick and veggi lomein.

Stacey Vuong takes a bite of grilled steak kabob.

At VietFest

Inova Hosts Annual Safety Fair

Firetrucks were popular with the children who attended the Safety Fair. Firefighter Kandra Wilson, from Station 203, helped children like Lucas climb up and experience what it’s like to sit inside.

Most of the food was provided by Firehouse Subs. Franchise owner Barry Pitkin was on hand to serve sandwiches to everyone who attended the event.

The Landmark Mall parking lot was filled with guests standing in line to taste Vietnamese cuisine such as pad thai, chicken on a stick and veggi lomein.

Stacey Vuong takes a bite of grilled steak kabob.

At VietFest

Inova Hosts Annual Safety Fair

Firetrucks were popular with the children who attended the Safety Fair. Firefighter Kandra Wilson, from Station 203, helped children like Lucas climb up and experience what it’s like to sit inside.

Most of the food was provided by Firehouse Subs. Franchise owner Barry Pitkin was on hand to serve sandwiches to everyone who attended the event.
Degefu Desta
Besse
communication;
was
degree was
the spring semester. Earning Bachelor of
from Radford University at the end of
in science in liberal arts.
master of science in applied intelligence
past May:
ated from Mercyhurst University this
medicine degree.
, who re-
who received masters of public health;
to the following people:
dean's list for the spring 2013 semester.

Elizabeth Conran and Kara Von
Dremsch both graduated from Fairleigh
Dickinson University's Metropolitan
Campus this spring.

Ashley Lynn Thorpe graduated from
University of Wisconsin-Madison
with a bachelor of social work degree.

Jocelyn Griser and Sarah Selica
Mura were named to the spring 2013
dean's list at Rensselaer Polytechnic
Institute.

Sheldon Pearce was named to the
dean's list at Stevenson University for
the spring 2013 semester.

Danielle Pascal has graduated from
Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, In.

Hannah C. Lynn earned dean's list
honors at Saint Joseph's University for
the spring 2013 semester.

Evon Morris recently took part in
the annual Rail and Intermodal Trans-
portation Program, a collaborative
program hosted by Michigan Techno-
logical University and the University of
Wisconsin-Superior. RITP is designed
for students with an interest in rail and
intermodal transportation engineering.
Students learn about rail and road trains,
giving them a first-hand look at locomo-
tives in action.

The following Virginia Tech students
were among those honored at the
university's spring graduate commence-
tment ceremony: Christopher
Ritchie, Andy Atchley, Katelyn
Seskey, Jeffrey Engle, Celine
Desbrosses, Mary McLevy, Sara
Weischek, Larry De, Mike
Gamble, Richard Krewson, Claire
Cuccio, Jessica Ross, Alexia Bar-
rios, Caitlin Dufraine, Jason
Granado, Taylor Ham, Gregorio
Doble, Faisal Hameed, James
Lepse, and Manuel Feijoo.

John Luzik will attend the Univer-
sity of Dayton this fall.

Molly Caulfield, a student at
Georgetown Visitation Preparatory
School, was named the 2013 recipient
of the Saint Michael's College Book
Award for Academic Achievement with
a Social Conscience. The award recog-
nizes students who demonstrate a
commitment to leadership in volunteer
service and academic achievement.

Danielle Comer and Kwasi
Owusu-Agyemang were named to the
dean's list at James Madison Univer-
sity for the spring 2013 semester.

Bishop Ireton High School
graduate

See Schools, Page 34
Girls' basketball team won 2012-13 Patriot District championship.

School: T.C. Williams High School.
Mascot: Titans.
School Colors: Red, white and blue.
Athletic Director: Steve Colanouni, 703-824-6860.
Football Coach: Dennis Randolph (seventh year).

What happened last year: The girls' basketball team reached the Patriot District championship.

The T.C. Williams girls' basketball team won the 2012-13 Patriot District championship. Girls' basketball team won the district title and reached the region quarterfinals. The team has a decorated past, winning state championships in 1971, 1984 and 1987. The boys' basketball program won a state title in 2008.

Famous Graduates: Gary Bertier was an All-American linebacker on the Titans' 1971 state championship team, considered one of the best prep football teams in Virginia history. Bertier was part of a TC defense which posted nine shutouts, including a 27-0 victory over Salem's Andrew Lewis in the state championship game in Roanoke. Following the 1971 season, a car accident left Bertier paraplegic. Ten years later, he died in a car accident. But while Bertier was confined in a wheelchair, he continued to push forward, competing in the Wheelchair Olympics. Bertier's time with the Titans was portrayed in the 2000 Disney movie "Remember the Titans." Linebacker Keith Burns (1990) was a seventh-round draft choice of the Denver Broncos in 1994. He spent 13 seasons in the NFL with the Broncos, Chicago Bears and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, winning a pair of Super Bowls (XXXII and XXXIII) with Denver. He is an assistant special teams coach with the Broncos and enters his sixth season on the staff. Tierra Ruffin-Pratt (2009) was a McDonald's All-American and the girls' basketball program's all-time leading scorer. She will be a senior at the University of North Carolina.

Quotable: "We tried so hard [for] four years — we haven't won it since 2009, so to win it my senior year is a great experience for me and my team because we worked hard to get here." — Former T.C. Williams girls' basketball player Christian Roberts after the Titans won the Patriot District title.

Boys' basketball team defeated top seed Gonzaga in WCAC tournament and reached semifinals for first time in school history.

School: Bishop Ireton High School.
Mascot: Cardinals.
School Colors: Burgundy and gold.
Athletic Director: Bill Simmons, 703-212-5169.
Football Coach: Tony Verducci (seventh year).

One year after producing the program's first 7-0 start, the Cardinals started 0-9 in 2012 and finished the season 1-9, winning their season finale against Pope John Paul the Great.

Boys' Basketball Coach: Julian King.
Girls' Basketball Coach: Kesha Walton.
Boys' Soccer Coach: Martin Nickley.
Baseball Coach: Jim Blair.
Rival School: West Potomac.

What happened last year: The field hockey team reached the Patriot District championship. "I think [beating Gonzaga is] a program-changer and I hope recruits out there see it and I hope we realize that anything is possible. We've been coming close the entire year and haven't been able to get over the hump and when they erased our 10-point lead at halftime and tied it up, everybody was like, 'Here we go again,' including the coaches. We got over the hump with some toughness and some gang rebounding and making big plays at the big time. Going through the wins every day in the WCAC just made our team resilient." — Bishop Ireton boys' basketball coach Neil Berkman.

What happened last year: The field hockey team reached the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference semifinals for the first time in school history.

The field hockey team reached the WCAC semifinals for the first time in school history. The girls' lacrosse team finished 28-1, capturing ISL tournament and state championships. The girls' basketball team reached the region quarterfinals. The Titans have a decorated past, winning state championships in 1971, 1984 and 1987. The boys' basketball program won a state title in 2008.

Famous Graduates: Gary Bertier was an All-American linebacker on the Titans' 1971 state championship team, considered one of the best prep football teams in Virginia history. Bertier was part of a TC defense which posted nine shutouts, including a 27-0 victory over Salem's Andrew Lewis in the state championship game in Roanoke. Following the 1971 season, a car accident left Bertier paraplegic. Ten years later, he died in a car accident. But while Bertier was confined in a wheelchair, he continued to push forward, competing in the Wheelchair Olympics. Bertier's time with the Titans was portrayed in the 2000 Disney movie "Remember the Titans." Linebacker Keith Burns (1990) was a seventh-round draft choice of the Denver Broncos in 1994. He spent 13 seasons in the NFL with the Broncos, Chicago Bears and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, winning a pair of Super Bowls (XXXII and XXXIII) with Denver. He is an assistant special teams coach with the Broncos and enters his sixth season on the staff. Tierra Ruffin-Pratt (2009) was a McDonald's All-American and the girls' basketball program's all-time leading scorer. She will be a senior at the University of North Carolina.

Quotable: "We tried so hard [for] four years — we haven't won it since 2009, so to win it my senior year is a great experience for me and my team because we worked hard to get here." — Former T.C. Williams girls' basketball player Christian Roberts after the Titans won the Patriot District title.

Boys' basketball team defeated top seed Gonzaga in WCAC tournament and reached semifinals for first time in school history.

School: T.C. Williams High School.
Mascot: Titans.
School Colors: Red, white and blue.
Athletic Director: Steve Colanouni, 703-824-6860.
Football Coach: Dennis Randolph (seventh year).

After a 1-5 start, the Titans closed the season with four consecutive victories, including a 13-10 overtime win against rival West Potomac in the regular season finale. Despite the strong finish, TC failed to qualify for the playoffs with a 5-5 record, extending its postseason drought to 22 seasons.

Boys' Basketball Coach: Julian King.
Girls' Basketball Coach: Kesha Walton.
Boys' Soccer Coach: Martin Nickley.
Baseball Coach: Jim Blair.
Rival School: West Potomac.

What happened last year: The field hockey team reached the Patriot District championship.

The T.C. Williams girls' basketball team won the 2012-13 Patriot District championship. Girls' basketball team won the district title and reached the region quarterfinals. The baseball team advanced to the region tournament for the first time since 2009. The boys' soccer team reached the region quarterfinals.

Historic Achievements: While the football program hasn't reached the playoffs in 22 seasons, the Titans have a decorated past, winning state championships in 1971, 1984 and 1987. The boys' basketball program won a state title in 2008.

Famous Graduates: Gary Bertier was an All-American linebacker on the Titans' 1971 state championship team, considered one of the best prep football teams in Virginia history. Bertier was part of a TC defense which posted nine shutouts, including a 27-0 victory over Salem's Andrew Lewis in the state championship game in Roanoke. Following the 1971 season, a car accident left Bertier paraplegic. Ten years later, he died in a car accident. But while Bertier was confined in a wheelchair, he continued to push forward, competing in the Wheelchair Olympics. Bertier's time with the Titans was portrayed in the 2000 Disney movie "Remember the Titans." Linebacker Keith Burns (1990) was a seventh-round draft choice of the Denver Broncos in 1994. He spent 13 seasons in the NFL with the Broncos, Chicago Bears and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, winning a pair of Super Bowls (XXXII and XXXIII) with Denver. He is an assistant special teams coach with the Broncos and enters his sixth season on the staff. Tierra Ruffin-Pratt (2009) was a McDonald's All-American and the girls' basketball program's all-time leading scorer. She will be a senior at the University of North Carolina.

Quotable: "We tried so hard [for] four years — we haven't won it since 2009, so to win it my senior year is a great experience for me and my team because we worked hard to get here." — Former T.C. Williams girls' basketball player Christian Roberts after the Titans won the Patriot District title.
Episcopal Sports

Boys’ basketball team reached IAC tournament semifinals.

School: Episcopal High School.
Mascot: Maroon.
School Colors: Maroon and black.

Athletic Directors: Jim Fitzpatrick (boys), 703-933-4034; Jen Fitzpatrick (girls), 703-933-4036

Football Coach: Panos Voulgaris (second year).
The Maroon finished 3-7 in Voulgaris’ first season as head coach, but two of those victories came against Alexandria foes Bishop Ireton and St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes.

Boys’ Soccer Coach: Rick Wilcox.
Boys’ Basketball Coach: Jim Fitzpatrick.

Girls’ Basketball Coach: Mady Gobrecht.

What happened last year:
The boys’ soccer team lost to Paul St. Agnes.

Famous Graduates: Bryson Sprouse (1999 graduate) accounted for more than 60 career touchdowns while playing quarterback for the Maroon. He played college football at the University of Virginia and the University of Richmond and was signed as an undrafted free agent by the NFL’s Jacksonville Jaguars, Seattle Seahawks, Washington Redskins and San Francisco 49ers. He played for NFL Europe’s Frankfurt Galaxy in 2006 and helped the team win World Bowl XIV. Running back Tim Hightower (2004) played at the University of Richmond and was a 2008 fifth-round draft choice of the Arizona Cardinals. He was traded to the Washington Redskins prior to the 2011 season. He has 523 carries for 2,004 yards and 24 touchdowns in four NFL seasons. He played in Super Bowl XLIII for Arizona, carrying once for no yards and catching two passes for 13 yards in a 27-23 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers. Hightower also competed in basketball and track for the Maroon. For two years he held the school record for “fastest pin” while wrestling in the 127-pound weight class. Paul DePodesta, New York Mets vice president of player development and scouting, also attended Episcopal.

Coaching Staff:

Coach: Greg Moviel

City To Extend Old Town Pool Season

The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities will continue to operate the Old Town Pool, located at 1609 Cameron St., through Saturday, Sept. 21. Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 3, admission to the Old Town Pool is free for City residents.

Extended Operating Hours:

Monday – Friday: 6 a.m. to noon, 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Note: Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 2: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fall Program Guide Now Available

The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities’ 2013 Fall Program Guide is now available. The program guide highlights city classes, programs, activities and special events occurring September through December.

Individuals who did not subscribe can download a free copy by visiting alexandriava.gov/recreation or pick up a printed copy at the following locations:

❖ Department of Communications & Public Information, City Hall, 301 King St.
❖ Charles Barrett Recreation Center, 1115 Martha Custis Dr.
❖ Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St.
❖ Chinquapin Park Recreation Center, 3210 King St.
❖ Cora Kelly Recreation Center, 25 W. Reed Ave.
❖ Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Recreation Center, 1605 Cameron St.
❖ Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center, 5750 Sanger Ave.
❖ Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave.
❖ Nannie J. Lee Memorial Recreation Center, 1108 Jefferson St.
❖ Patrick Henry Recreation Center, 4643 Taney Ave.
❖ William Ramsay Recreation Center, 5650 Sanger Ave.
❖ Barnett Branch Library, 717 Queen St.
❖ Beatles Central Library, 5005 Duke St.
❖ Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Rd.
❖ Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave.
❖ Program guides are mailed to subscribers three times each year: Fall Programs (August); Winter Programs (December); and Spring and Summer Programs (March).

To sign up for a free subscription to the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities’ Program Guide, visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation or call 703-746-4343.
Lamar's disregard of the city's Voluntary Rent Guidelines is another issue in the Landlord Tenant Relations Division complaint — rents are being increased by multiples of those in the Guidelines, the first wave of many similar increases to come in each of the years ahead. This issue could be discussed in a number of ways. For example, a comparison of VDOT’s annual rental profits statement with Laramar’s estimated repair costs suggests that profits are achievable at increased rental rates within the City Guidelines, or perhaps with no increases at all, pending the completion of those repairs and the attendant interruptions in basic utilities, as well as the multiple various hardships residents are dealing with in the process. Instead, Ms. Davis essentially dismisses the issue.

Equally remarkable on that subject is the sordid portrayal in Ms. Davis’s statement given to two words: “affordable” and “workforce” — as in affordable and workforce housing. The implications of double-digit percentage rent increases for current residents and the initial 20 to 30 percent increase in the rent ranges for new residents, with more increases to come, is plain enough — the Point’s days as a source of affordable and workforce housing are numbered.

As are the over 100 remaining units of workforce housing at Hunting Terrace, slated to be demolished in favor of upscale development. Added to the many thousands of imperiled units at Beauregard and elsewhere, and the over 10,000 units lost since 2000, the city is set on course to lose over 20,000 units of said housing during Ms. Davis’s tenure as housing director and beyond. The city’s message to nurses, teachers, police, waiters, custodial workers, secretaries, mechanics, warehousemen, and anyone else who can work here, but you can’t live here.

Jim Mercury
Hunting Point resident

Letters

From page 26
Michael Barb is one of about 150 Bob Jones University students conducting serious research on off campus this summer as a paid research fellow. Barb is exploring research in peace and conflict studies.

Veronica Hartley, the daughter of Paul and Jacquelyn Hartley of Alexandria, was named to Randolph-Macon Academy’s dean’s list. Hartley was a sophomore at Randolph-Macon Academy during the 2012-13 school year.

During Randolph-Macon Academy’s Class Night Awards ceremony on May 23, 2013, top students were recognized for their achievements. Anasitia C. Voellm, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick R. Voellm of Alexandria, received Baylor University Provost’s Gold Scholarship, an Army ROTC Scholarship, and a National Honor Society Scholarship. Voellm was also named the Athlete of the Year and received the Cadet in the Arena Leadership Award. She also received the Athena Award, which is presented each year to the sophomore who manifests special recognition for demonstrating leadership and service. Voellm was a senior at the Academy during the 2012-13 school year.

Andrew Huerta joined six other Bob Jones University students for a mission trip to Australia June 3-July 30. The team, led by Dr. Michael Barber of Alexandria, is conducting research in peace and conflict studies. Huerta is majoring in Spanish.

Ariel Raquel Harris, graduated from the College of Fine and Performing Arts at University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a bachelor of arts degree. John Paul Still graduated from the Graduate College at University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a master of science degree. Geoffroy William Goff recently graduated from Wofford College with a bachelor of arts degree.

Anastasia C. Voellm, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick R. Voellm of Alexandria, graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy on May 25. She was a member of the National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, and the Spanish Honor Society while at the Academy. At the end of the school year, she received Baylor University Provost’s Gold Scholarship, an Army ROTC Scholarship, the National Honor Society Scholarship, the President’s Award for Academic Achievement, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Award, and the Certificate of Excellence for Spanish Honors. She also received the Cadet in the Arena Leadership Award and the Athena Award.

Visit These Houses of Worship
Join a Club, Make New Friends, or Expand Your Horizons...

Good Shepherd Catholic Church
Mass Schedule
Saturday Evening 5:00 pm Vigil Mass 6:00 pm Vigil Mass (en Espanol) Sunday 7:30 am 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpretation) Children’s Liturgy of the Word; 10:30 am 12:00 Noon 5:00 pm (en Espanol); 6:30 pm 8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA 22309 Tel: 703-790-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 www.gs-cc.org Loving as Christ loves, serving as Christ serves

Get the latest local news delivered straight to your inbox! Sign up for our newsletter today.
TOYOTA
natiowide Clearance event

BRAND NEW 2013 TOYOTA COROLLA LE
4 DR, SEDAN, 4-SPD. AUTO
LEASE FOR
$169 PER MO.
36 MOS. $2,199 DUE AT SIGNING.
OR 0% APR FINANCING FOR UP TO 60 MO.²
OR $500 CASH BACK³

BRAND NEW 2013 TOYOTA CAMRY LE
4 DR, SEDAN, 6-SPD. AUTO
LEASE FOR
$199 PER MO.
24 MOS. $2,099 DUE AT SIGNING.
OR 0% APR FINANCING FOR UP TO 60 MO.²
OR GET $1,000 CASH BACK³

BRAND NEW 2013 TOYOTA RAV4 LE
2WD 4 CYLINDER AUTO.
LEASE FOR
$219 PER MO.
36 MOS. $2,999 DUE AT SIGNING.
PLUS $500 LEASE LOYALTY CASH⁶

Call, Click or Visit and learn why we are 1 of only 4 dealerships in the nation to win Toyota’s President’s Award 27 years straight!

$1,500 OVER BLACK BOOK TRADE IN VALUE®
0% APR FINANCING ON SELECT NEW MODELS FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS ²
OVER 600 VEHICLES AVAILABLE
$2,750 CASH BACK³

Welcome to the family
BRAND NEW 2013
SCION IQ
$139 PER MO.
FOR 36 MONTHS ²
$1,699 due at signing

0% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE²
PRISMA FAMILY IN-STOCK NOW

$750 REBATE FOR RECENT COLLEGE GRADS³
$1,000 MILITARY REBATE INCENTIVE FOR ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL*